

Hebrews 11:1-40

In the beginning...What truth did the Holy Spirit stir in you through the sermon Sunday?

Memory Verse: *“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him” (Hebrews 11:5 NIV).*

Let’s dig into the Bible for Truth:

Read Hebrews 11:1 – 40; List at least 12 actions of faith: _____

Hebrews 11:1 – 6

1. How is faith defined? _____
2. What pleases God? Why? _____

Hebrews 11:7 – 16

1. What did Noah inherit? _____
2. What did Abraham inherit? _____
3. Although they both received something promised what was the greater inheritance they sought? _____

Hebrew 11:17 – 31 What did Moses give up to follow his destiny and what did he gain? _____

Hebrews 11:32 – 38 Does a life of faith mean we will never have any battles? Give example from these texts: _____

Hebrews 11:39, 40

1. Why were the O. T. saints commended? _____
2. What has God planned for us? _____

“But be DOERS of the Word and not hearers only...” James 1:22

What Now? Application time:

1. What are our biggest challenges?
2. What promises in Scripture promise solutions to our challenges (Ask group to help identify verses to stand upon)?
3. What action(s) of faith have you been inspired to take to help move you toward receiving the promises of God?
4. How will our eternal perspectives, produced by faith-filled promises, change the way we deal with promises yet unfulfilled?

Summary: God's spoken Word creates everything in the physical world. The substance of our faith is this Word and becomes our "title deed" and "proof" we have what God says we do, even when we can't see it! Chapter 11 then enumerates the importance of "faith & actions" with examples from the stories of the Bible. The author gives overwhelming evidence of the necessity of faith followed by works to receive the promises. The writer of Hebrews says a couple of times, "These all died not receiving what was promised" when in the examples he has revealed they did. This apparent contradiction, however, reveals the beauty of the past, present, future dimensions of God's redemptive plan. Hebrews declares they were already looking for far more than temporal needs to be met. Many of the O. T. saints RECEIVED TEMPORAL ANSWERS. It is also noteworthy that faith did not exempt saints from adversity – sometimes it actually put them in harms way. But they were ALL searching for "a [heavenly] City, whose Builder and Maker is God". The eternal aspects of God's promise helped them [and us] to persevere present struggles having been convinced there is "something better planned for us".