







Celebration Times
Wednesday 6:30pm
Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 9:00am & 11:30am

The Cathedral
2223 Capitol Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95816

Children And Youth Complex (CYC)
And Mailing Address
2150 Capitol Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95816

First Time Guests Text Your Full Name to: 916.581.2676

Stop by the Connection Center in the Fellowship Hall to receive your gift

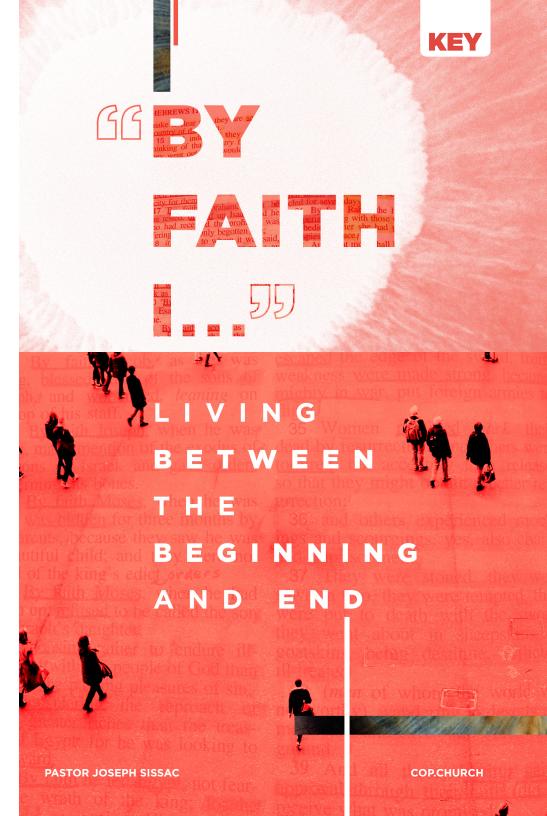
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## "BY FAITH I..."

Hebrews 11, 12-1-12

Living Between the Beginning and End

#### THE FAITH HALL OF FAME

Faith is essential to a Biblical walk with the Lord (Heb 11:6). In Hebrews 12:2 it states, "fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith..." Jesus is the One from whom our faith <u>originates</u>. And He is the One who <u>completes</u> and brings our faith to maturity. In order to get the best understanding of this verse, one must look at the context, extending back to Hebrews 11.

Hebrews 11 lists 19 individuals and groups from the Old Testament who accomplished the will of the Lord. How did they do it? **By and through FAITH**. This is illustrated in the graphs to the right.

#### **HARD TO PLEASE**

One of the most revealing examples of the walk of faith is illustrated through the life of Abraham and his sons. At the ages of 100 (Abraham) and 90 (Sarah), the couple had no children, yet God declared that within a year Sarah would give birth to a son (Gen. 18:10). Though there was *doubt* and apprehension, what God declared came to past (Gen. 21:1-2). What God had promised wasn't just for a childless couple to have a son, but the birth of a *nation*.

Issac's wife Rebekah, like her mother-in-law was also barren (Gen. 25:21). But God answered Issac's prayers and they conceived. Their walk of faith was not over due to the difficulty of the pregnancy (Gen. 25:22-24). Isaac's son Jacob patiently waited and served Laban to receive Rachel as his wife (Gen. 29), only to then discover that she too could not conceive. It was again through the **power** of God that she miraculously bore Joseph. Later she would die due to a severe labor with Benjamin (Gen. 35:16-19).

#### **FIXED FOR FAITH**

Faith is indeed powerful and necessary when it comes to fulfilling God's will for our lives. But if the history of some of the greatest men and women of faith to ever walk the earth is any indication, God often very intentionally <u>designs</u> the faith-walk to include seemingly <u>impossible</u> and discouraging circumstances. Why? Our answer is found where we began, "fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith..." God wants our vision to be FIXED on the One from whom our faith begins and ends. NOT on the circumstantial <u>limitations</u> and challenges. Just like victorious champions of faith from Hebrews 11, we are called to live a "BY FAITH... LIFE".

# GG 39 99

HEBREWS 11:3-31	
Abel	Offered (v. 4)
Enoch	Was taken up (v. 5)
Noah	Prepared an ark (v. 7)
Abraham	Obeyed, Offered (v. 8, 17)
Sarah	Received ability (v. 11)
Isaac	Blessed (v. 20)
Jacob	Blessed, Worship (v. 21)
Joseph	Mentioned, Gave orders (v. 22)
Moses	Chose (v. 24)
Children of Israel	Passed through on dry land (v.29)
Rahab	Welcomed Spies (v. 31)

HEBREWS 11:32-39	
Gideon Baralk Samson Jephthah David Samuel The Prophets	Conquered Kingdoms Performed Acts of Righteousness Obtained Promises Shut the mouths of Lions Quenched the power of fire Escaped the edge of the sword From weakness were made strong Put foreign armies to flight Received back their dead by resurrection Were tortured Experienced Mocking, etc.

### "BY FAITH

YOUR NAME

YOUR ACTION

and God

GOD'S ACTION

