

Context: Hebrews

- Written to Christians who were drifting & growing comfortable.
- Heb. 2:1 — Pay attention or you'll drift.
- Heb. 3:12 — Guard your heart; unbelief is sneaky.
- Heb. 5:12–13 — They should be mature but still need milk.
- Warning: comfort leads to spiritual stagnation.

Pastoral concern today

- New believers: stay faithful — joy, freedom, abundance await.
- Sanctification is slow but worth it. Don't fight alone.
- Seasoned believers: danger of excuses
 - Busy schedules, careers, money, kids, church hurt, apathy.
- Many walk with Jesus for years but remain spiritually immature:
 - Little prayer
 - No disciplines
 - No generosity
 - No service
- Comfortable Christianity kills hunger.
- God calls us out of the kiddie pool and into the deep end.

Hebrews 11 Overview

- Spans ~3,000 years & ~25 generations.
 - “By faith” repeated **19 times**.
 - Not a hall of perfection — a **Hall of Faith**.
 - Every hero failed morally, but was commended for faith.
 - Noah got drunk
 - Abraham doubted
 - Sarah laughed
 - Moses murdered
 - Rahab’s history
 - Samson’s lust
 - God sees **faith**, not failure.
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1. Faith Sees What Others Miss

Hebrews 11:1–3

- *Assurance* = foundation, substance.
- Faith sees the unseen as more real than the seen.
- *Conviction* = proof.
- Creation itself points to the invisible Word of God.
- Faith moves based on what God says, not what eyes see.

Faith moves before results appear

- Noah built before rain.

- Abraham walked before directions.
- Faith isn't "Does this make sense?"
- Faith asks, "Did God say it?"

Faith requires movement

- Abel offered.
- Enoch walked.
- Noah built.
- Abraham went.
- Sarah obeyed.
- Faith expresses itself through action.

Practical examples

- Loving the person who hurt you.
- Sexual purity when culture mocks it.
- Generosity when finances feel tight.
- Confessing private sin.
- Joining a Group despite a busy calendar.
- Faith may look like losing short-term but gains life long-term.
- "I'll obey before I understand."

2. Faith Builds for a Future It Won't See

Hebrews 11:39–40 → 12:1

- Many died without seeing the fulfillment of promises.
- Their faith still speaks (v.4).
- They planted seeds others harvested.

Abraham's example

- Promised countless descendants.
- Died with one son and a small plot of land.
- But God's promise unfolded over generations.

Our call

- Build altars on unseen soil.
 - We sow today so another generation reaps tomorrow.
 - Faith asks **"What's possible for them?"**
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Run Your Race

Hebrews 12:1–2

- Surrounded by a legacy of faith.
- Lay aside:
 - Every weight
 - Every sin
- Don't ask: "Is this a sin?"
- Ask: **"Does this help me run?"**

- Fix eyes on Jesus:
 - Founder & perfecter of faith.
 - Endured the cross.
 - Seated in victory.

The baton is in our hands

- From the early church → great awakenings → evangelists → pastors → missionaries → local churches → Netcast.
 - Same gospel.
 - Same Spirit.
 - Now our turn.
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Call to Bold Generosity

- 2025 budget: \$2.5M — on target.
- Elders sensing God's lead to stretch:
 - **\$500,000 year-end generosity goal**
 - Close 2025 at **\$3M**
- Why? Because:
 - More people will meet Jesus.
 - More needs will be met.
 - Expansion will continue.
 - Creativity will grow at the mall.

Next steps

- Pray.
 - Listen to the Holy Spirit.
 - Obey whatever God says.
 - Become Acts 2 & 4:
 - No needy person among us.
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Main Takeaway

Faith moves before it makes sense, builds for a future it may never see, and runs with endurance for generations to come.

Application

- Examine what's weighing you down.
- Trade comfort for calling.
- Join a Group.
- Practice generosity.
- Obey quickly.
- Run your race.