



## Message 1 | By Faith They Endured

### Text | Hebrews 11:1–7; 2 Corinthians 5:7

#### Introduction:

Faith is not wishful thinking—it is confident trust in the unseen God. Hebrews 11 opens with examples of men and women who endured through faith. They faced real obstacles—death, darkness, and derision—yet they kept trusting. Let’s see how we can learn from their examples as we trust God to live by faith, not sight.

#### Faith Defined - Trust in the unseen God (Hebrews 11:1–3)

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. It anchors us to God’s promises when life feels uncertain.

#### Faith Worships - Abel’s Offering (Hebrews 11:4)

- Abel experienced physical death (his offering rejected by Cain, and his life taken).
- His sacrifice still “speaks” because faith-filled worship honors God.
- Worship is more than ritual—it’s trust expressed in giving, praying, singing, & more.

#### Faith Walks - Enoch’s Fellowship (Hebrews 11:5–6)

- Enoch endured darkness in a corrupt generation.
- He “walked with God” - daily fellowship, steady trust.
- Faith lives with God’s presence as the defining reality, not the surrounding culture.

#### Faith Works - Noah’s Obedience (Hebrews 11:7)

- Noah endured derision from a mocking world.
- He obeyed God when warned about “things not yet seen.”
- True faith rolls up its sleeves - building, serving, acting in obedience even when misunderstood.

#### Faith Lives - Walking by Faith, Not Sight (2 Corinthians 5:7)

- Faith is not a one-time event but an ongoing lifestyle.
- We live by believing, not by seeing—trusting God in the face of death, darkness, and derision.

**Faith endures.** It worships, walks, and works - trusting the unseen God when the world cannot see

## Discussion Questions

1. Can you think of a time when you kept trusting God even though you couldn't see the outcome?
2. How does the Bible's definition of faith challenge our culture's idea of "blind faith"? Where in your life right now do you need assurance about "things not seen"?
3. Why do you think Abel's offering was accepted and Cain's was not?
4. What does it mean in practical terms to "walk with God" in 2025? What helps you walk with God consistently? What tends to knock you off course?
5. Why is obedience such a clear test of faith? Can you share a time when obeying God cost you something—maybe misunderstanding or even ridicule?
6. Where do you sense God calling you to live more by faith than by sight this week?