

Hebrews 11:8-40

“Jesus Inspires Better Faith” pt. 2

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Subject: Faith in action

Object: Do great things

Think about this: How is the world/our society against us?

INTRO: I think it's more difficult than ever before to live a life focused on God. From TV shows that everyone including kids seem to be watching like “Walking Dead” (with radical violence/cussing), social media (Instagram, snapchat, etc.), and public schools with LBGT stuff - I could go on - our culture is set against us.

Something you have to possess is the belief that God is there, He loves you and He can work through your life – not everyone or everything is gonna convince you of that not even friends or fellow Christians.

The big exhortation to the Christians (mostly Jews) that this book is written to (who are told to hang in there even though it's costing them a lot) is that they put great faith in this new relationship they have with Jesus.

Here's my exhortation to you: A people who live in a world hostile to Jesus surrounded by unbelief should spend a lot of time in this book, particularly this chapter. Why? There are many good examples of what it takes when no one else is believing but you and when no one has vision except yourself!!! We need to be encouraged in our Faith!!!!!!!!!!!!

Do you want be encouraged in your faith? Would you like to learn how these folks did great things? This is what you're gonna learn tonight!!!

Keep 3 truths about faith in mind as we go through this chapter:

1. Faith makes the future present
2. Faith makes the invisible visible –what you can't see, faith will help you see
3. Faith has God as it's object –it is only as valuable as the object you place it upon

read/pray

3 sections

1A. [ABRAHAM \[8-19\]](#)

Facts: 2 ways to live – by sight & by faith (based primarily on what you don't see)

Abraham (the key) – the father of the Jews/ the father of the faithful

Jews wrongly believed he was chosen because of his righteousness and his good works/writer must show that he was counted righteous cuz of his faith

Genesis 15:6 And he believed in the Lord, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.

1B. A journey of faith [8-10]

By faith – operative phrase/a catalyst

...went out, not knowing where he was going [1]

illus: Imagine Abraham meeting a caravan on his journey. Here's how it might go...

dwelt– hung out /camped

illus:Abraham was a camper/a happy camper/where God wanted him/eternal outlook...

waited – expectantly (the heavenly country/city)

Don't look for fulfillment here.Keep eternity in your heart, you'll experience heaven in your soul and you'll be blessed where you are.

2B. A posterity of faith [11-12]Sarah 90yrs. Abraham 100

Faith doesn't set aside the facts/it just Factors God into the equation

What seemingly insurmountable, hard-to-figure out situation do you have right now?

3B. A declaration of faith [13-16]

illus : The longer I live and the more experiences I have, the less I feel like I belong here. Do you ever feel like that? Why do you suppose that is?

embraced them – greeted, anticipate with pleasure

strangers and pilgrims – people who don't belong

a better [country] – heaven/they looked for, longed for someplace better

4B. A test of faith [17-19]

God calls Abraham to offer his son Issac as a burnt offering on Mt. Moriah

1) Late in life for Abraham

2) He wouldn't have been able to do it earlier in life_

1Corinthians 10:13 ... God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able...

3) He was ready for this. He had great faith Genesis 22:5

4) Isaac is 33

The longer you experience God's love/faithfulness the easier it is to obey and go for it!

2A. THE PATRIARCHS AND MOSES [20-29]

1B. Blessing the next generation [20-23]

Isaac – noted for his faith in blessing his kids

Jacob – noted for his faith in blessing Joseph's kids

Isaac and Jacob blessed the children by prophesying over them [20-21]

Joseph blessed future generations by foretelling the future (they would leave Egypt one day)[22]

Moses parents blessed Moses (and the nation) by saving him (he is special)[23]

Have you declared the future that God has planned for your children to your children yet? Have you affirmed them as special lately?

2B. Rejecting the world's offering [24-26]

1C. Moses chose the path of humility [24] James 4:10

2C. Moses chose the path of suffering [25]_

3C. Moses chose the path of future blessings [26]

Philippians 3:7 But what things were gain to me I counted as loss for Christ.

3B. Accepting God's way [27-29]

1C. Seeing the invisible [27] 2 Kings 6:14-18

forsook – “I'm out of here!!!”

2C. Convincing three million [28] Must have been hard to sell/no one lost

3C. Keeping dry [29] only example of faith in the 3 million/forced faith

3A. HEROES AND HEROINES [30-40]

Illus: Consider Stephen as he was being stoned by the council – saw Jesus/forgiveness

1B. Conquering Faith [30-35a] acted upon

By faith the walls of Jericho fell down... [30]

Faith can do the impossible through the ridiculous

By faith Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe [31]

Romans 10:17 So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Paul wrote “If God is for us than who can be against us? Romans 8:31

And sometimes we get to experience great events, healings, restorations but....

2B. Enduring Faith [35b-38] action done to

others were tortured...[35b]

Why does God allow some (others) to suffer while others experience victories?

Illus: I know a godly lady in the church who lost her husband several years ago...

Having a testimony of achieving great things is cool but there are so many believers paying great prices (sick, persecuted, suffering). How are they doing it? By Faith!!!

3B. Saving Faith [39-40]

...a good testimony through faith...[39] Reputation

the promise – The coming Messiah

The saints of Hebrews 11 looked forward, we look back by faith

John 20:29 Blessed *are* those who have not seen and *yet* have believed.

Conclusion: Saints and fellow believers remember this:

Faith makes the future present

Faith makes the invisible visible

Faith has God as it's object

By faith, go do great things – love you spouse, bless your children, serve your parents, share your faith, pray the prayer of faith