

Faithful Living Today

Hebrews 11:1-16

Have you ever been in one of those situations where you were living by faith?

A group of Christians struggling:

- Some who had been persecuted
- Some who were disappointed that Jesus didn't return and that his Kingdom hadn't come
- Some who were thinking about giving up on the church

Does that sound like anybody you know?

Does that sound like you?

"Now faith" the writer says, "is the assurance of things hoped for."

In other words, faith is _____

Romans 4:3ff

Paul argues that it's not the blood that makes us part of God's family – it's FAITH

Hebrews 11

Verse 3 – "created by the word of God."

Verse 4 – "by faith, Abel offered to God a better sacrifice."

Verse 5 – Then Enoch, about whom we know so little, but somehow pleased God.

Verse 7 – And then there was Noah, who found favor in the eyes of the Lord when nobody else did.

Verse 8 – And then, Abraham the classic example.

Makes me think of how often we believe in things we never see fulfilled:

Our work here is finished! God's Kingdom has come, God's will is being done, in Franklinton, as it is in Heaven. No probably not! But still, we do the work believing someday, it will come – we have the faith of Abraham.

How do we do it? How do we keep on doing it when it often seems that heaven is further from earth than when we arrived?

Regardless of the current reality, we believe that God will prevail in the end!

- My workplace is full of back-biting and fights to get ahead
- My country is bitterly divided
- My family is falling apart

Conclusion