

Hebrews 11:1-6 "Faith That Touches God!"
OGCF Feb. 18, 2024 Pastor Lee Talley

Introduction:

(Heb. 10:38; John 10:10; Heb. 8:1-2; Eph. 1:3; John 20:25-29)

“The best way for faith to grow is to walk with the faithful.”

Warren Wiersbe

[1] Through **BELIEVING FAITH** we grab hold of God’s love, power, peace - and truly possess them.

[2] Hebrews Ch. 11, assures Jewish Christians that a life of faith is actually the **HALLMARK** of their Hebrew heritage - *not a departure!*

[3] **EVERYTHING** that God created began - with His **WORD**... You can’t have *faith in God* without *faith in His Word*.
(John 14:29)

[4] By **FAITH** Abel’s sacrifice became a prophetic offering pointing to Jesus’ future sacrifice...
(John 1:29; Prov. 3:5-6; Jude 14)

[5] Notice he doesn’t say, “*without faith it’s difficult to please God, or barely doable*” – no, it’s **IMPOSSIBLE!**
(Rom. 1:16-22)

[6] This is how God is with His kids. He’s a **REWARDER** of those who diligently seek Him, *but you have to seek! You have to come running into His throne room [family room]!* Heb. 4:16 “...come boldly...”
(1 Jn 3:1, Rom. 8:15)

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"Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, [15] "to execute judgment on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.""

What do you think is the "big picture" or main idea of this passage?

How do you think God wants us to respond to this passage? Is there something we need to DO, or a truth we need to remember? If so, what?

GET PRACTICAL

- 8) If you stopped walking by faith, how would your life be different?
- 9) Hebrews 11:6 uses the phrase "those who diligently seek Him". Does this phrase describe you? Why or why not?
- 10) What do you most need to remember from this week's message and/or homework?

PRAYER REQUESTS

- ▶
- ▶
- ▶

Life Group Homework For the week of February 18, 2024

MY STORY

- 1) Share a wrong belief you held as a child. (a misunderstanding of who someone was, what a word meant, how something worked, etc)

What, if anything, did you do to defend your belief?

What helped you discover the truth?

QUICK REVIEW

- 2) Looking back at Hebrews 11:1-6 and your notes from this Sunday's message, what stood out to you or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

- 3) Imagine a non-Christian friend told you he/she thinks you just have a "blind faith" in God. How would you respond?

- 4) The Old Testament prophesied many things about the coming Messiah (or Christ). For example, the Messiah would be a descendant of Abraham and of David (Gen.

12:3, Is. 9:7), born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), born of a virgin (Is. 7:14), and that He would suffer and die for the sins of the people (Is. 53:7-8, 12). How do these prophecies strengthen or encourage your faith?

Other than prophesy, what other truths, experiences, or ideas strengthen and encourage your faith in God?

5) What stands out to you from the following passage?

John 14:1-6 - "[1] *Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. [2] In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also. [4] And where I go you know, and the way you know.*" [5] Thomas said to Him, "Lord, we do not know where You are going, and how can we know the way?" [6] Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me."

Is there anything in this passage that is difficult for you to believe? Why or why not?

6) Read the following passage where Jesus speaks to His disciples.

John 13:18-22 - "[18] *I do not speak concerning all of you. I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture may be fulfilled, 'He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel*

against Me.' [19] *Now I tell you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe that I am He. [20] Most assuredly, I say to you, he who receives whomever I send receives Me; and he who receives Me receives Him who sent Me.*" [21] *When Jesus had said these things, He was troubled in spirit, and testified and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me."* [22] *Then the disciples looked at one another, perplexed about whom He spoke."*

What was Jesus' purpose in sharing this information?

Do you think this "inside info" helped the disciples deal with the difficult situation of Judas' betrayal? Why or why not?

7) This week we read about Abel, Cain, and Enoch. What stands out to you, or what questions do you have, about the following passage?

Jude 1:4, 10-15 - "[4] *For certain men have crept in unnoticed, who long ago were marked out for this condemnation, ungodly men, who turn the grace of our God into lewdness and deny the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ. ... [10] But these speak evil of whatever they do not know; and whatever they know naturally, like brute beasts, in these things they corrupt themselves. [11] Woe to them! For they have gone in the way of Cain, have run greedily in the error of Balaam for profit, and perished in the rebellion of Korah. [12] These are spots in your love feasts, while they feast with you without fear, serving only themselves. They are clouds without water, carried about by the winds; late autumn trees without fruit, twice dead, pulled up by the roots; [13] raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever. [14] Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying,*