Hebrews 11:23-29 "Faith That Grows Stronger!" OGCF Mar. 17, 2024 Pastor Lee Talley

Introduction: (Heb. 11:17-18; John 3:16; Gen. 22:8; John 8:56)

Gen. 25:23; 27:33, 35; 28:1-4. Prov. 22:6

[#1] By <u>Faith</u> we love, encourage, instruct, bless, pray for our children... No matter how old they are! (Gen. 50:24-25; Exodus 2:9-10; 2:11-15; Acts 7:25)

[#2] God always does His will His way. He works through **faith**, not our **flesh**.

(James 1:20; Exodus 3:1-14)

DL Moody "Moses spent his first 40 years in Pharaoh's court thinking he was a somebody. He spent his second 40 years in the desert learning he was a nobody. And he spent his last 40 years showing what God can do with a somebody who discovers he is a nobody."

[#3] Building Moses faith, God reveals His majestic, eternal name... "I AM."

(John 8:58; 1 Cor. 5:7; John 10:27-28; Exodus 14:11-13)

[#4] It's faith that allows God to <u>forgive</u> to the point of <u>forgetting</u>, then treat us as if we'd never sinned!

(Eph. 2:8-10)

[#5] After we are saved, God goes to work in our lives, **building** our faith stronger and stronger.

(Exodus 14:22, 28)

[#6] The perfect place to put your faith ... <u>Jesus</u>... the majestic, eternal 'I AM'.

(1 Cor. 5:7; John 10:27-28)

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Food for Thought for the week of March 17, 2024

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

Life Groups are on break! Feel free to use the following study questions with your personal devotions! Life Groups signups begin March 24!

1) Jacob loses his favorite son, Joseph, through the jealousy, deceit, and treachery of his other sons.

Genesis 37 - ²³ So it came to pass, when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph *of* his tunic, the tunic of *many* colors that *was* on him. ²⁴ Then they took him and cast him into a pit. And the pit *was* empty; *there was* no water in it. ²⁸ Then Midianite traders passed by; so *the brothers* pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty *shekels* of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Genesis 50 - ¹⁸ Then his brothers also went and fell down before his face, and they said, "Behold, we *are* your servants." ¹⁹ Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for *am* I in the place of God? ²⁰ But as for you, you meant evil against me; *but* God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as *it is* this day, to save many people alive.

What are one or two things you can learn from these two passages? How do you think Joseph was able to forgive his brothers?

2) Moses meets God at the burning bush and is told to go back to Egypt and lead his people out of slavery. God says to tell Pharaoh, "Let my people go!"

Exodus 3 - ⁹ Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." ¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who *am* I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"

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Exodus 4 - ¹⁰ Then Moses said to the LORD, "O my Lord, I *am* not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I *am* slow of speech and slow of tongue." ¹¹ So the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the LORD? ¹² Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say."

Have there been times in your life that you felt inadequate to serve God; or even to do something you believed was right or good? How has God helped you recognize that He will be there to aide and support you during those times? What Scriptures helped you? List some of those helpful verses.

- 3) Moses was able to focus on eternal rewards rather than the worldly riches of Egypt. Read the following passages about our riches in Christ.
- 1 Timothy 6:17 ¹⁷ Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy. **Proverbs 10:22** (NLT) ²² The blessing of the LORD makes a person rich, and he adds no sorrow with it.

Philippians 4:19 - ¹⁹ And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Matthew 6:20-21 (NLT) - ²⁰ Store your treasures in heaven, where moths and rust cannot destroy, and thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ Wherever your treasure is, there the desires of your heart will also be.

2 Corinthians 8:9 - ⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, that you through His poverty might become rich.

How do these verses help you focus, as Moses did, on eternal rewards rather than the worldly riches?

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