

#3 Faith Through Action Hebrews 11:7-39 (ESV)

THE HALL OF FAITH: EXAMPLES OF LIVING BY FAITH

Noah

Hebrews 11:7 *By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.*

- Noah walked by **FAITH** (Genesis 6:9-22)

Abraham

Hebrews 11:8-12 *By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. ¹¹By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. ¹²Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.*

- Abraham **BELIEVED** and **OBEYED** (Genesis 12:1-5)

Hebrews 11:17-19 *By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸of whom it was said, "Through Isaac shall your offspring be named." ¹⁹He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.*

- Abraham **BELIEVED** in God's **PROMISE** to him. (Genesis 12:1-5)

Joseph

Hebrews 11:22 *By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.*

- Joseph followed God through all **CIRCUMSTANCES** (Genesis 37)

Moses

²³*By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.*

- Moses was alive through **FAITH**

Hebrews 11:23-29 *By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. ²⁷By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. ²⁸By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them. ²⁹By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned.*

- Moses was a **LEADER** of Israel through his **FAITH**

Isaac, Jacob, Rahab, Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, and the Prophets

Hebrews 11:20-21, 30-35 ²⁰*By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. ²¹By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff... ³⁰By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies. ³²And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— ³³who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. ³⁵Women received back their dead by resurrection.*

LIVING BY FAITH: WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

- The Bible, which is God's **TRUE WORD** and the people in it can be our **INSPIRATION** and uplift us. (2 Timothy 3:16)
- Though our faith will sometimes **FLUCTUATE** and **FALTER**, we need to **PERSEVERE** (Genesis 16 & Genesis 18:12)

Hebrews 11:35-39 *...Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. ³⁶Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated— ³⁸of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth. ³⁹And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised*

- Noah was a **WEIRDO** and we are also **WEIRDOS** (Hebrews 11:36)
- We need to consider ourselves **SOJOURNERS** that are just passing through to a **BETTER PLACE** (Hebrews 11:9, 13-16, 22, 24-26)
- Things are not always going to feel like they are **WORKING OUT** for us.

Hebrews 11:13-16 *These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. ¹⁴For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.*

- Faith requires that we look ahead to our **REWARDS IN ETERNITY** and to reject the things of this world that **DISTRACT US**. (Hebrews 11:10, 12, 13, 17)

**FAITH HOLDS US UP—OUR REWARD IS IN HEAVEN
JESUS IS BETTER—OUR FAITH CAN HELP OTHERS**