

Jesus is best! (The Book of Hebrews)

Week 6: Jesus is the object of our faith

WELCOME

Spend time relaxing and sharing together.

What unseen certainties have guided you in making fundamental, life changing decisions?

WORSHIP

Thank and praise the Lord Jesus Christ for the ways in which he has blessed you as individuals and as a group since the last time you met.

WORD

Read Hebrews 11.1-7

1. What evidence do these verses offer for saying that faith is rational and logical?

Growth Group Notes

Summer 2024



Read Hebrews 11.8-31

These verses contain examples of many biblical characters who demonstrated great faith.

Two examples:

1. Abraham

God chose Abraham to receive a unique revelation of Himself and gave him stunning covenant promises. The themes of covenant and faith sum up Abraham's unique role in scripture. God established His covenant with Abraham (Gen 12.1-3) and reaffirmed it (Gen 18.19).

Abraham's strengths: He had amazing faith. He took the land that Lot rejected and let him have the good land even though he was the elder and had the right to choose (Gen 13.8-9); Abraham believed God's promise that he would have a son in his old age; he obeyed God when we was told to sacrifice his only son. This proved to be a test of Abraham's faithfulness, as God provided a sacrificial goat in place of Isaac. Abraham is mentioned 67 times in the New Testament and many of these refer to Abraham as an example of faith and that God justifies not based on works, but based on faith.

Abraham's weaknesses: He was deceptive about his wife, Sarah (Gen 12.12-20, 20.1-18) demonstrating a lack of love for his wife; he showed a lack of trust in God's promise that he and Sarah could bear a child (Gen 17.17) and was easily talked into something that was not God's will, that is taking Hagar as a wife (Gen 16).

2. Sarah

Sarah's strengths: She put her trust in God even though what He promised seemed impossible (Hebrews 11.11); She praised God and laughed a lot (Gen 16.6-7)

Sarah's weaknesses: She showed a lack of faith in God's promise, she was a schemer in that she was willing to sin in order to get something she desired (Gen 16.1-4); She shifted the blame for her sin to her husband

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(Gen 16:5-6); She Lied to cover her sin (Gen 18:13-15); She was jealous (Gen 21:9-12)

2. What can we learn from Abraham and Sarah as models of faith?
3. If you have time you could consider the lives of some of the other Old Testament characters mentioned here. Why do you think the writer of Hebrews selected them?
4. Think of someone you know who has demonstrated great faith in God through their actions. Why did you choose them?



WHAT NEXT?

Faith is hope and conviction in things unseen.

Everyone has faith. The question is where is that faith placed?

Every time you step on a plane, you exercise faith in the pilot whom you don't know.

When you sit down on a chair, you exercise faith that it will hold you up.

By faith, you probably don't even always check your bank account to see if your salary has arrived.

Faith is part of our everyday life. Those who deny the need for faith are kidding themselves. What will you place your faith in? The heroes in this chapter chose to place their faith in God, and their examples are recorded for us to inspire us in our own walks with the Lord.

What can we do?

What can you do in the coming week to increase your faith?