

FAITH

Prairie Rose EMC, Feb. 7, 2021

Pastor Mike - Hebrews 11 & 12

“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. “By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.” Hebrews 11:1-3 (NIV84)

³⁵ Women received back their dead, raised to life again. Others were tortured and refused to be released, so that they might gain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Some faced jeers and flogging, while still others were chained and put in prison.

³⁷ They were stoned; they were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— ³⁸ the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

³⁹ These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

Hebrews 11:35–40

“A real Christian is an odd number anyway. He feels supreme love for One whom he has never seen, talks familiarly every day to Someone he cannot see, expects to go to heaven on the virtue of Another, empties himself in order to be full, admits he is wrong so he can be declared right, goes down in order to get up, is strongest when he is weakest, richest when he is poorest, and happiest when he feels worst. He dies so he can live, forsakes in order to have, gives away so he can keep, sees the invisible, hears the inaudible, and knows that which passeth knowledge.” (A.W.Tozer “The Root of the Righteousness”)

Faith’s Hall of Fame

Hebrews 11:1&2

- 11:3-7—Faith before the Flood.

- 11:8-31—Faith of the Pilgrims.

- 11:32-38—Faith in the Land of Promise.

Hebrews 11:32-40

What is faith?

How would you define it?

What are some misconceptions about it?

Misconceptions on Faith

1. Blind Faith
2. Certainty Faith
3. Intellectual Faith
4. Sentimental Faith
5. Circumstantial Faith
 - a. Life is inconsistent
 - b. We’re bad at interpreting events
 - c. Our time frame isn’t long enough

Principles of Faith from Hebrews 11

1) Seeing with your ears

2) Faith is an active trust

- a. Faith is active
- b. Faith is trust

3) Faith is used as both a noun and a verb

Faith as a Noun = “The Faith”

- “Truths of the faith”
- “Sound in the faith”
- “Wandered from the faith”
- “Denied the faith”
- “I have kept the faith”

Faith as a Verb = an action; an active dependence on God

Faith has to have an object in which we place our trust.

Is Faith a Noun or Verb?

- Strong “Verbers” - Weak “Nouners”
- Strong “Nouner” - Weak “Verbers”

*“What we need is an intelligent understanding of the faith, **as a noun**, that leads to a full experience of faith **as a verb.**”* Charles Price



4) Faith is diverse in its;

- a) Applications
- b) and Outcomes

“Apart from faith in Christ, there is no explanation for such a life.”

Are you living a life of faith?

Are you a “nouner” or a “verber”? You need to be both!!!

¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. ² Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Hebrews 12:1–3

“May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.”

Hebrews 13:20-21