

LESSON 15: HEBREWS 11: FAITH IN ACTION

I. Introduction

Hebrews 11 builds directly upon the exhortations of Hebrews 10, illustrating what it means to “live by faith and not shrink back.” Often called the Hall of Faith, the chapter provides concrete examples of the kind of persevering faith that Hebrews 10 calls believers to embrace. Faith is defined not merely as belief, but as confident trust in God’s promises and deep conviction concerning unseen realities. It shapes how believers understand both God’s work in creation and His ongoing activity in history (Hebrews 11:3).

The chapter reinforces the truth that faith is essential to a living relationship with God. It is impossible to please Him without faith, for those who draw near must believe that He exists and that He faithfully rewards those who diligently seek Him (verse 6). This echoes Hebrews 10’s call to approach God with full assurance and unwavering hope, grounded in God’s faithfulness rather than human effort.

Through the lives of Abel, Noah, Abraham, Moses, Rahab, and many others, Hebrews 11 demonstrates that genuine faith leads to obedient action. These individuals responded to God’s call even when the future was uncertain, choosing trust over fear and obedience over comfort. Their faith was expressed not only in moments of triumph but also through long seasons of waiting, sacrifice, and endurance.

Importantly, Hebrews 11 makes clear that faith does not guarantee immediate fulfillment or earthly success. While some experienced victory, deliverance, and provision, others suffered loss, hardship, and persecution without seeing the complete realization of God’s promises. Yet all were commended because they remained faithful.

The key message: faith is not measured by visible outcomes but by perseverance, obedience, and confidence in God’s character. Believers are called to endure, to trust God fully, and to continue walking faithfully, knowing that His promises are sure even when fulfillment lies beyond what can be seen.

II. Study the Scriptures: Read the Hebrews Chapter 11 Passage

Note your thoughts as you read:

Write down any questions that come to mind as you read:

III. Think Through the Following Questions:

1. How does Hebrews 11 define faith in verses 1–3?
2. What patterns do you notice in the lives of the faith heroes?
3. Why does the chapter include stories of both triumph and suffering?
4. What does it mean to live as “strangers and pilgrims” on earth?
5. Where is God calling you to obey without full clarity?
6. How does an eternal perspective reshape your priorities today?
7. What step of faith is God inviting you to take next?

IV. Lessons Learned: Are there any new things you learned from this passage today?

V. Application: How Do You think this will impact your thinking and/or actions going forward?