

## Monday

### What Does the Bible Say about Living by Faith?

In order to study faith, understand it, and consequently live by it, it is necessary to define it. There is probably no better passage in the Bible on the topic of faith than Hebrews 11. We'll study for that chapter this week, see how others lived by faith, and learn how we can too when we are in similar situations.

1. Read Hebrews 11:1-3 – What are the two parts of the definition of faith?
2. Faith is the substance of things hoped for. Faith is the evidence for things not seen. Faith, which is something you cannot see, hear, or touch, is defined as evidence and substance, things that you can see. What situation are you facing that you wish you had concrete evidence and tangible substance to help you?
3. According to verse 2, what did the elders obtain by faith?
4. According to verse 3, what do we understand by faith?
5. Faith, which is something you cannot see, hear, or touch, is what gives us understanding, something concrete in our mind. For what question about life do you need understanding?
6. How do you think that immaterial faith could lead to such concrete evidence, substance, and understanding?

A good working definition for faith is “belief that does not rest on logical proof or material evidence.” However, that is exactly what faith is. It is evidence. It is substance. It is understanding. Your faith, however, cannot be blind faith in just anything. It must be faith in God and His Word.

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Noah was a man who lived by faith. If you want to read the entire account of the flood, you can find it in Genesis 6-9. We will look at only a small portion of his life's story today.

1. Read Hebrews 11:7 – Noah was warned by God about “things not seen as yet.” What were those things?
2. Specifically, one of those things not seen as yet was rain. Read Genesis 6:13-17 – What did God tell Noah to do in response to the warning he received.
3. Read Genesis 6:22 – How much of God's commands did Noah obey?
4. Read Genesis 5:32 and 7:6 – How long did it take Noah to build the ark?
5. Read Genesis 7:5 – How much of God's commands did Noah obey?
6. Noah had never seen rain. He worked for 100 years to build the ark. According to Hebrews 11:7, what kept him working for all those years?
7. We discussed the benefits of living by faith. One of the benefits is that the thing that caused uncertainty is rendered powerless. Read Genesis 7:23 – What does this verse say about the power of the flood on Noah and his family?
8. Noah had to exercise his faith for 100 years in order to see the results of it. What can you learn from his life to help you live by faith?

Noah's faith was all the evidence that he needed to know that God was going to do what He said He would do. Trust God's Word!

## Wednesday

### What Does the Bible Say about Living by Faith?

Another man in the Bible who exhibited a great deal of faith is Abraham. If you want to read about his entire life, you will have to read a few more chapters than for Noah's life. You will need to read Genesis 12-25. Again, we will look at a few highlights.

1. Read Hebrews 11:8-19 – What was Abraham's first test of faith?
2. Did he pass?
3. Abraham left his home, not knowing where he was going. He obeyed God and passed the test. His next test was trusting God for a son. Read Genesis 12:1-4. How old was Abraham when God first promised a son?
4. Read Genesis 17:17 – Abraham still didn't have a son with Sarah his wife. How old were they at this point?
5. Read Genesis 17:21 – How much longer would Abraham have to wait for a son?
6. Read Genesis 21:1-2 – Did God keep His word?
7. Abraham's next test was to give up his son, Isaac, that he waited for so long. Read Genesis 22:1-3 – Did Abraham obey?
8. Abraham faced many situations in his life that seemed to make no sense, but God proved Himself to be faithful. Can you trust God with the situations you are facing?

If Abraham could trust God to pack up and leave everything to go to destination unknown, and trust God for a son at age 100, and trust God give up his son, we too ought to be able to trust God with the affairs of our life. If God was faithful to Abraham, He will be faithful to you too! You can trust Him!

## Thursday

### What Does the Bible Say about Living by Faith?

Moses also demonstrated a great deal of faith in his life. To read about his whole life, you will need to read all of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. Since you probably don't have that much time today, we will hit the hit points. Let's learn about faith from Moses.

1. Read Hebrews 11:24-29 – This passage mentions four times in Moses' life that he demonstrated faith. The first was when he refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. In that position he had the riches of Egypt at his disposal. Instead he "had respect unto the recompense of the reward." What was the reward of his action?
2. Moses' next demonstration of faith was when he forsook Egypt. He would have nothing to do with it. He endured apart from Egypt as if he were able to see God physically. What allowed him to be able to do that?
3. Another show of faith was when he kept the Passover. God warned that the angel would kill the firstborn of every house that did not have the blood on the door. Why would keeping the Passover require faith?
4. The last demonstration of Moses' faith recorded in this passage is when they came to the Red Sea. Read Exodus 14:16-21 – What did God tell Moses to do in verse 16?
5. What happened in verse 21?
6. If God parted the Red Sea, can He take care of your life.

Moses' faith in God and His Word allowed him to obey God. As a result of his faith and obedience, Moses saw God do amazing things, things that can only be explained by a mighty work of God. Obey Him, and you will see Him work in your life as well!

## Friday

### What Does the Bible Say about Living by Faith?

Another man of faith mentioned in Hebrews 11 is Joshua. Most of his is recorded in the book of Joshua, but he is mentioned earlier in Numbers. We will learn more about the life of faith from the life of Joshua.

1. Read Numbers 14:1-9 – In chapter 13 twelve men were sent to spy out the land that they were to take. One of those men was Joshua. What did he and Caleb tell the people about the land?
2. After Moses died, Joshua took over for him. His first task was to take the people across the Jordan River. Read Joshua 3:15 – What was the river like at that time of the year?
3. According to verse 16, what happened as soon as the priests put their feet in the water?
4. God shut off a stretch of river about 30 miles long. That happened after the men demonstrated faith. His next test of faith was taking Jericho. Jericho was a heavily fortified city. Read Joshua 6:2-6 – What was the battle plan?
5. According to verse 20, what happened?
6. Is there a lot of military evidence that would suggest that the battle plan was a good one?
7. What allowed Joshua to follow through with that plan?
8. Joshua trusted God's promises. What promises of God will you trust to help you in your current situation?

In the critical situations in Joshua's life, he demonstrated solid faith in God and His Word. The God that opened the Jordan River and brought down the walls of Jericho is the same God that lives and works today in your life, and He does in through your faith.

## Saturday

### What Does the Bible Say about Living by Faith?

Hebrews 11 mentions Gideon. It doesn't give any of the details of his life, but he had one crucial moment in his life that faith in God and God's Word was absolutely necessary.

1. Read Judges 6:11-16 – Israel was in captivity to the Midianites. Israel had sinned, and God used the Midianites to punish Israel. After seven years of captivity, God came to Gideon. What did He ask Gideon to do?
2. To say the least, Gideon was a little nervous about this idea. After God finally convinced him, Gideon gathered an army together. His army was 32,000 people. Read Judges 7:1-3 – What did God tell Gideon to do in verse 3?
3. How many people were left?
4. Read Judges 7:4-7 – What did God say about the amount of people that was left?
5. God gave more instructions to go home. How many people were left?
6. Read Judges 7:16-22 – What was the battle plan?
7. What happened in verse 22?
8. Did God keep His Word?
9. What instructions have you received from God's Word?

Gideon received instruction from God. Gideon obeyed, and the situation that caused him so much uncertainty was taken care of by God. Fear was not necessary because God is faithful. Obey Him!

## Sunday

### What Does the Bible Say about Living by Faith?

The last character we will study from Hebrews 11 is Daniel. There are many others in the Bible who demonstrated faith. Though Daniel was not mentioned by name, his story is in verse 33. To get the whole story, we will have to look to the book of Daniel.

1. Read Daniel 1:1-6 – Daniel was a Jew. How did he get to Babylon?
2. Read Daniel 6:4-9 – Daniel became second in command in all of Babylon. Other people were jealous of his position, so they came up with a plan to trap Daniel. What was that plan?
3. According to verse 10, what was Daniel's response to the law?
4. Daniel did disobey the law, but it was necessary for him to remain faithful to God. What was Daniel's punishment?
5. What did the king say to Daniel in verse 16?
6. King Darius knew that Daniel's God would deliver him. He probably saw Daniel's faith in the past. Read Daniel 6:19-23 – What was Daniel's response to King Darius when he asked if his God was able to deliver him?
7. Daniel grew up serving the true God. Even after spending several years in Babylon, he still served God. In what do you think Daniel placed his faith?

Matthew 9:27-29 records the story of when Jesus healed two blind men. He asked if they believed that He was able to heal them. They answered, "Yes." Jesus replied to them, "According to your faith be it unto you." God will display His power in our lives in relation to the amount of faith we display. About what do you need to trust God? He will work in direct proportion to your faith in Him, His power, and His Word.