



# FAITH BY

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church  
Southfield, Michigan

Virtual Bible Study – Wednesday, March 23, 2022 @7:00pm

Lead Facilitator: Rev. Valerie Crump

Guest Teacher: Dr. Terrance L. Holder, Pastoral Candidate

**Lesson Text: Hebrews 11**

**Lesson Theme: By Faith**

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**Introduction:** The book of Hebrews is one of the most profound, provocative, and providential books in all the New Testament Canon. It is a constitution on the Christology of Christ and His redemptive sacrifice for mankind. It reveals Christ fulfilling all three divinely ordained offices of the Old Testament: prophet, king, and priest. Hebrews plunges the depths of Christianity by exposing many of the false systems of belief, hardships, and failures that believers experienced at the time of its writing in approximately (AD 65). It can be seen as a back to the basics book. A book in which the writer wanted to communicate that **ONLY** Christ, not sacred traditions, or new ideas, was to be the center of our faith. This book should be viewed in the context of those whom it was written to, men and women in the 1st Century who were struggling with their faith in a life-or-death manner that we have never experienced. Over and over in this book it notes that these believers were facing persecution because of their faith. As a result, many were falling back into the rituals and rites of Judaism to avoid persecution. And even though this book wasn't written to us, we can look to it when life seems complicated, when we are uncertain, and when we feel our faith wavering. In all, Hebrews helps us to realign our faith to the truth of God's Word and his unwavering promises. We will see in this study that faith is the hinge upon which our convictions as believers swings.

**The Big Idea:** Hebrews makes clear that Jesus Christ exceeds **ALL** other people, pursuits, passions, and or hopes to which we offer allegiance. Therefore, without understanding this critical point, the rest of this theological treasure will not make sense. Neither will we be able to enjoy its redemptive provisions and promises.

**Transition Statement:** At the heart of Hebrews 11, we discover that faith is believing that God exists, that Christ was the personification (incarnation) of God in the flesh, that he is a rewarder of those who faithfully seek Him, and that we can have confidence in Him because His promises are always true.

**A Theology of Faith:** Faith is the divinely inspired human response to God's historical revelation through Jesus Christ. Its where our faith (truth) intersects with God's person and plan.

- *Truth is the basis for trust.*
  - *Trust is essential for developing a personal relationship with Christ.*
  - *Truth leads us to respond faithfully, consistently, and reverently to God in humility and obedience.*
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**5 FAITH Reflection Questions:**

1. What are some life situations that you were forced to demonstrate your faith in God?

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2. Has there been a time when you showed a lack of faith?

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3. What are the benefits of faith in God?

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4. In what ways does God honor our faith?

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5. How do we grow in our faith?  
-through prayer (inspiration)  
-through Bible Study (revelation)  
-through daily trusting God (application--feet on our faith)

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**Lesson Outline:**

1. The Foundation of Faith that is Recorded in Hebrews 11:1-3

**Note:** Faith is acting in accordance with the Word of God. No more, no less. It's not some premonition that something good is going to happen or some wistful hope. It's grounded in the Authentic, Accurate and Authoritative Word of God.

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2. The Figures of Faith that are Recognized in Hebrews 11:4-31

**Note:** They were not perfect, but they ALL trusted in God

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3. The Favor of Faith that is received in Hebrews 11:4-31

**Note:** God honored those (heroes and sheroes) of faith who trusted in Him

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4. The Factors of Faith that are Relevant in Hebrews 11:32-40

**Note:** Faith is challenged. Faith is costly. Faith triumphs. Faith is rewarded.

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**Key Thought:** The men mentioned in this portion of scripture all faced challenges that tried their faith: "Gideon... Barak... Samson... Jephthah... David... Samuel... the prophets...yet they persevered. Some were tortured, scourged, imprisoned. All the consequence of faith. But in verse 39, we see that God honors (praises) the faithful--they received a good report.

**Textual Observation:** In verse 40, the word "better" contrasts the Gospel vs the Law. The Gospel is better because it provided a better sacrifice, and a better hope. New Testament believers have not just a shadow but the substance. We do not need the sacrifices of animals...Jesus was the Lamb slain...we need not a high priest to mediate for us, Jesus is the Great High Priest...We do not need a prophet, Jesus has spoken warnings and blessings. We do not need an earthly king; Jesus is seated in heaven as King of kings.

**High Point:** When the world forgets, God remembers and recognizes our faith. This verse encourages us to hold on.

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**Life Applications:**

1. Daily seek God's will for your life and follow His direction. (Proverbs 3:5)
2. Open the door of your life to the Lord even in dark times. (Revelations 3:20)
3. Express your faith. (Mark 11:24)
4. Live to enjoy God's presence, power, promises and provisions. (1 Peter 1:3)
5. Maintain the spiritual discipline of faith. (Psalm 1)

**Conclusion:** Hebrews 11 in part helps us to know that what happens in our earthly lives is not the end of God's plan for us. Let's walk by faith and not by sight and see what God has in store for our now and our not yet. For as the apostle Paul wrote: But as it is written "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." (1 Corinthians 2:9/Isaiah 64:4)

# NEW HOPE

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Lesson Text: Hebrews 11

Lesson Theme: By Faith

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# **Lesson Theme: By Faith**

**Key Verse:** Hebrews 11:1

“Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”

**Key Thought:** The formation (development) of FAITH is central to one’s ability to understand the economy of the kingdom of Heaven, God’s sovereignty and love for us as His redeemed children.

**Quote:** Faith is to believe what you do not see; the reward of this faith is to see what you believe. **Saint Augustine**

# **The Formation of Our Faith**

## **The Key Elements to Faith Formation:**

1. The Object of our Faith-(Is Jesus Christ) Heb. 12:2 “looking unto...”
2. The Objective of our Faith-(Is to trust God completely) Prov. 3:5
3. The Opposition of our Faith-(Fear, doubt, pride, greed, ego, etc.) Mark 10:17-27 (Rich young ruler).
4. The Outcome of our Faith-(Peace with God) Rom. 5:1 “..we have peace with God by faith.

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## **5 FAITH Reflection Questions:**

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**High Point:** When we forget God, God KEEPS His promises to a thousand generations.

**Text Insight:** “He hath remembered his covenant for ever, the word which he commanded to a thousand generations.” (Psalm 105:8)

## **Life Applications:**

1. Daily seek God's will for your life and follow His direction.  
(Proverbs 3:5)
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