

As chapter 11 concludes, the remembrance of faith takes us (the reader) on a history lesson through the Old Testament. The author recalls numerous people and events that speak to the underlying theme of faithfulness, and the section concludes with a strong call to run with endurance the same race of faith as those who've gone before us.

Hebrews 11:17-40

Enduring Faith

Part II

I. COMPARING OUR STORIES

MY EXPERIENCE...

YOUR EXPERIENCE...

People gain inspiration from all kinds of sources. Encouragement to take the first step and begin something, to sustain it, and to finish well is helpful in all kinds of contexts. Whether setting a health goal, starting a new hobby, beginning a project, or even walking out our faith daily, we need inspiration to press on to attain whatever it may be that we hope to accomplish.

II. CONSIDERING OUR STRUGGLES

WHO inspires you?

HOW important are examples (and champions) of the faith in your own spiritual journey?

HOW does time effect your ability to trust the Lord?

WHY are results important in setting goals or making decisions, especially when it comes to your walk with the Lord?

CAN you think of objectives/goals you've set and worked toward that include outcomes you may never see?

Hebrews 11:17-20 Read Hebrews 11:17-20

Enduring Faith

Part II

OBSERVATION

How did Abraham demonstrate faith in God according to vs. 19?

What do you observe from the text about the faith of Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph in vs. 20-22?

By faith, what did Moses “refuse” in vs. 24-26?

How did Rahab demonstrate her obedience in vs. 31?

As you read vs. 32-38, what names/events do you recognize from Scripture? Which ones are unfamiliar?

According to vs 39, even though these people were commended by their faith, what did they NOT receive, and for what reason was it “withheld “ (40)?

What should our response to this passage be according to 12:1-2?

INTERPRETATION

What does vs. 19 mean? Read the original account of this event in Genesis 22:1-5 as you consider Abraham’s faith.

Why was faith required for Jacob to bless Joseph’s sons in Genesis 47:31-48:5?

What does vs. 22 mean? How did Joseph make mention of the exodus by faith? Consider Exodus 13:19 and Joshua 24:32 for insight.

Why was faith necessary for Moses when he refused to be called the son of pharaoh’s daughter? Similarly, can you think of a time when refused something good in order to trust the Lord for something “better”?

What were some of the results of Rahab’s faith (vs. 31) seen in Joshua 2 and Matthew 1:1, 5, 16?

What does this passage reveal about those the original audience (and us today) may face if we walk by faith (vs. 36-38)?

Why is vs. 39-40 significant when considering the outlook of those who walked in faith before us?

APPLICATION

How can a Biblical perspective on eternity inform the way you walk in faith *today*? How can it effect the way we respond to the author’s admonishment in 12:1-2?