



Hebrews – By Faith!
Dr. Nina Baratiak 08.06.2023

USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

[1 Corinthians 10:1, NKJV]

Now ALL THESE THINGS HAPPENED TO THEM as EXAMPLES, and they were WRITTEN FOR OUR ADMONITION, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

[Hebrew 11:6, NKJV]

BUT WITHOUT FAITH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PLEASE HIM, for he who comes to God MUST believe that He is, AND that He is A REWARDER of THOSE who DILIGENTLY SEEK HIM.

[Hebrews 11:1-2, NKJV]

¹ Now faith is the SUBSTANCE of things hoped for, the EVIDENCE of things not seen. ² For BY IT the elders obtained a good testimony.

"Faith is the actual tangible ingredient that brings the things hoped for to fruition. Hope without faith is just a fantasy."

[Hebrews 11:32-38, NKJV]

³² And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: ³³ who THROUGH FAITH subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, ³⁴ quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. ³⁵ Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶ Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. ³⁷ They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented— ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

"Don't underestimate the importance of serving. The opportunities of the supernatural are wherever we minister."

[Acts 6:5a, NKJV]

...And they chose Stephen, a man FULL OF FAITH and the Holy Spirit.

[Acts 6:7-8, NKJV]

⁷ Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith. ⁸ And Stephen, FULL OF FAITH AND POWER, did GREAT WONDERS AND SIGNS among the people.

"No matter where we serve, let there be signs and wonders and lives all around us touched!"

[Hebrews 11:39-40, NKJV]

³⁹ And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, ⁴⁰ God having provided SOMETHING BETTER FOR US, that THEY SHOULD NOT BE MADE PERFECT APART FROM US.

3 Keys That Can Greatly Increase Your Faith:

1. The Word of God

[Romans 10:17, NKJV]

So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing BY THE WORD OF GOD.

[Hebrews 4:12a, NKJV]

For the word of God is LIVING AND POWERFUL, and SHARPER THAN ANY TWO-EDGED SWORD...

2. Our Spiritual Vision

PROPHETIC VISION: to have a PROGRESSIVE VISION.

[Proverbs 29:18a, NKJV]

Where there is no prophetic vision THE PEOPLE CAST OFF RESTRAINT...

[Hebrews 6:12, NKJV]

That YOU DO NOT become SLUGGISH, BUT imitate those who through FAITH AND PATIENCE inherit the promises.

3. Develop a life of endurance through patience

[Hebrews 12:1-2a, NKJV]

¹ THEREFORE WE ALSO, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, LET US lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us RUN WITH ENDURANCE the race that is set before us, ² LOOKING UNTO JESUS, the author and finisher of our faith...

[Galatians 6:9, NKJV]

And LET US not grow weary while doing good, for in DUE SEASON we SHALL reap IF WE DO NOT LOSE

Key Points:

Three Keys That Can Greatly Increase Your Faith:

1. The Word of God
2. Our Spiritual Vision
3. Develop A Life of Endurance Through Patience

Applications for the Week:

Faith comes by hearing the Word of God. This week, take time to read and listen to your Bible. Not sure where to start reading? Visit www.youversion.com or download the You Version Bible app and find a Bible reading plan.

Discussion Questions:

1. Define what "faith" means to you? What do you think people in the world at-large define faith as?
2. Who are some heroes of the faith in your life? (biblically, historically, personally)
3. Why is faith important to please God? (See Hebrews 11:6)
4. What does it look like to live a life of faith?
5. Dr. Nina said, "Hope without faith is just a fantasy." How does this statement challenge you?
6. Why does God want our faith to increase? How does faith contribute to endure hard things in life?
7. How was Stephen full of faith? How does his example of serving and faith speak to you personally today?
8. Which of the three keys to increasing our faith will you focus on applying right away?