

Resilience of Unwavering Confidence

This article is a follow-up on a previous article named, "Planting the Seed of Faith". How is your journey going? Did you plant your seed? If not, it is never too late.

At the end of the "Planting the Seed of Faith" article, Hebrews 11:1 was quoted. *"Faith is confidence."* For those who haven't received Jesus yet, adding faith to their daily life may be difficult. It's understandable to have uncertainty in trusting something we can't see, touch or hear. The Bible explains the power of having firm confidence in the unknown and why this faith can make a difference in your life. Read the first few verses of Hebrews 11.

Hebrews 11:1-3 : *"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible."* (English Standard Version)

Let us look at this closer. The Bible is suggesting to hold a firm belief in something we can't see, touch, smell, hear or taste. These components are common human sensory systems necessary for development and understanding. Without these sensors, our comprehension becomes difficult. However, the power of Faith can overcome this. The power of Faith can steer us to receive God's approval which is the ultimate goal here.



God's approval leads us to the golden star of being righteous. In **Daniel 12:3**, the Bible says, *"And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."* (English Standard Version) This is a promise made that our righteousness will reward us with eternal glory. We need to practice and share God's will. Faith will let our hearts shine like the stars above. What a glorious

feeling this is!

Hebrews 11 is titled, By Faith. This book discusses well-known characters in the Bible or important examples of people with an unwavering confidence of faith in God. These characters did not live without sin, nor did they lead a life without misfortune. Nonetheless, their faith in God was strong to the end of their days.

Hebrews 11:8-12 describes the faith Abraham carried throughout his life. One has to love Abraham's dedication and faithfulness to God. Read the Bible chapter of Abraham being tested by God to sacrifice his son Isaac, as written in Genesis 22. In Genesis 17:15-19, not only did God promise Abraham & Sarah a son, but he promised many offspring & nations from Isaac to carry on Abraham's legacy. A year later, Isaac was born. (see Genesis 21) The Bible doesn't identify how much time has passed from the birth of Isaac to when Abraham set out to sacrifice his son. Historians speculate Isaac to be a young adult. If Isaac was a young adult, did he fight his father of over 100 years in age or was Isaac's cooperation a representation of his faith in the Lord? Despite God's promise of a son and many nations to come, Abraham trusted in God & obeyed his order despite how painful the outcome would be. God stopped Abraham from sacrificing Isaac. And according to the Bible, Abraham was given the legacy God promised. God tests us. God doesn't make each day an easy day. If you can carry the unwavering confidence in God's existence, you will see a difference in you and your life.

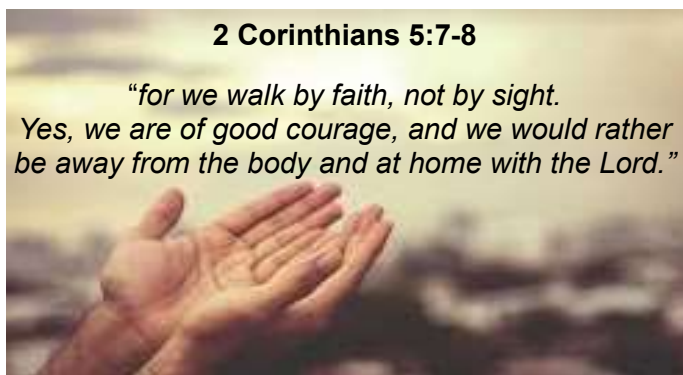
There are many righteous believers in God throughout the Bible, such as, Noah, Moses, John the Baptist and Peter. Did you know Noah was 600 years old when he built the famous ark. Just a little fun fact. Hebrews 11 ends with this message, verses 39:40, *"And all these,*

Unwavering Faith

HOW STRONG IS YOUR FAITH WHEN TESTED?

though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.”

These followers of the almighty Lord did not receive what was promised on earth but God’s approval led them to the golden star of being righteous. Eternal glory was their reward. The highest reward you can possibly achieve. We walk around blindly, ever day, believing in things we can’t see, touch, smell or hear. Having faith in god, does not cost you money. The cost of having faith is you giving a piece of your heart to a glorious, gracious, merciful God who promises eternal life; with him. He promises the Kingdom of Heaven. Plant your seed. Be brave and give a little piece of your heart. Reread Hebrews 11:39-40 as a reminder that we are not here to reap the rewards of this earthly life nor are we to receive a perfect life. WE are here for something much bigger!



If you are finding it difficult to plant your seed or walk in confidence with faith, please, come join us at **Grace Lutheran Church**.

We wish to see you and help you in finding **your** way.

Prayer & Thanks to God:

Dear Lord,

As we seek our path of Faith, give us strength & guidance. Let us feel the resilience of unwavering confidence in achieving the highest reward, your eternal glory. Be generous in your encouragement. Shine upon our seed, your glorious light so we may flourish and blossom. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

