

Hall Of Faith

Week 4

Hebrews 11

Faith in Action

11 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. **2** This is what the ancients were commended for.

3 By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

4 By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead.

5 By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death: "He could not be found, because God had taken him away."^[a] For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. **6** And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

7 By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith.

8 By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. **9** By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. **10** For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

11 And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she^[a] considered him faithful who had made the promise. **12** And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

13 All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. **14** People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. **15** If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. **16** Instead, they were

longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

17 By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, **18** even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.”^[c] **19** Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.

20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future.

21 By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph’s sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.

22 By faith Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his bones.

23 By faith Moses’ parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict.

24 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. **25** He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. **26** He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. **27** By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king’s anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. **28** By faith he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.

29 By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as on dry land; but when the Egyptians tried to do so, they were drowned.

30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell, after the army had marched around them for seven days.

31 By faith the prostitute Rahab, because she welcomed the spies, was not killed with those who were disobedient.^[c]

32 And what more shall I say? I do not have time to tell about Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, about David and Samuel and the prophets, **33** who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, **34** quenched the fury of the flames, and escaped the edge of the sword; whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and

routed foreign armies. **35** Women received back their dead, raised to life again. There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. **36** Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. **37** They were put to death by stoning;^[a] they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— **38** the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.

39 These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised, **40** since God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect

Journal Prompts/Discussion

Key Questions:

How can the group continue to grow in their faith journey together?

How can faith impact a person's life and the lives of those around them?

What actions can be taken to strengthen faith during challenging times?

How can personal faith impact family members who are unaware of one's spiritual journey?

What can be learned from the stories of biblical figures regarding faith?

What is the significance of sacrifice in demonstrating faith?

Zoom AI Summary

Meeting Summary for Becoming Better Book & Bible Study 2025 | Journey 1 : Facing Faith

Feb 10, 2025 05:55 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) ID: 812 4567 7283

Quick recap

The group discussed their personal experiences, favorite Girl Scout cookies, and the concept of faith, using biblical stories as examples. They explored the importance of faith in overcoming challenges, building stronger communities, and surrendering to God's promises. The conversation ended with a discussion about potential book studies and the importance of faith and sacrifice in their journey.

Next steps

Soleil to add Brianna to the text group for Bible study updates.

Soleil to review poll results and determine the next steps for the Bible study group.

Soleil to communicate the plan for the next journey/session to the group members.

Group members to consider which book they would prefer for the next study, if applicable.

Soleil to explore options for holding some future sessions in person when the weather improves.

Summary

Bible Study Session and Check-Ins

The group begins their Bible study session with greetings and check-ins. Soleil leads the opening prayer and invites participants to share any prayer requests or personal updates. She reminds everyone about the AI companion in the chat and shares a link to their resource hub containing session notes and replays. Soleil then asks for volunteers to recap the previous week's session, which focused on unbelief, but receives no immediate responses. She welcomes new participants and continues to encourage engagement from the group.

Addressing Unbelief for Stronger Faith

In the meeting, Jhordan and Soleil discussed the concept of unbelief and its impact on faith. They referred to a Bible story where Jesus addressed a father's doubt in his ability to heal his son, emphasizing the importance of belief in God's power. They also discussed the consequences of unbelief, such as not entering God's promises, not being able to perform mighty works, and not being able to drive out spirits. The team was encouraged to reflect on their own beliefs and behaviors, considering whether they lean more towards societal norms or kingdom values, and whether they are only effective when there is a move of God. The conversation ended with a call to address any unbelief in order to build stronger faith.

Faith, Community, and Overcoming Challenges

Soleil and Courtney discussed their personal growth and faith. Courtney shared how her faith has helped her develop a positive mindset and overcome negative thoughts. She emphasized the importance of surrounding oneself with a supportive community and trusting in God's plan. Soleil then shared a personal experience where Courtney's faith and resilience helped her navigate a challenging situation. Soleil expressed gratitude for Courtney's presence and how it had a positive impact on her. The conversation highlighted the importance of faith, community, and trust in overcoming life's challenges.

Exploring Faith in the Bible

Soleil led a discussion on the concept of faith, using the Hall of Faith in Hebrews 11 as a reference. She emphasized the importance of studying the Bible and introduced a new resource, the Courage for Life audio Bible. The group discussed the definition of faith as the reality of what we hope for and the evidence of things we cannot see. They also explored how faith can earn a good reputation and character. The discussion then shifted to the role of faith in the creation of the universe, with Soleil emphasizing that faith was the driving force behind God's command to form the entire universe. The group was encouraged to reflect on how these examples of faith inspire them.

Exploring Biblical Faith and Context

Soleil led a discussion about faith, focusing on the biblical stories of Abel, Enoch, and Noah. She emphasized the importance of understanding the context and actions of these individuals to better understand their faith. The group discussed how faith can lead to pleasing God, as seen in Enoch's story, and how it can also lead to challenges, as in Abel's case. They also explored the concept of faith as a reward for those who sincerely seek God, as exemplified by Enoch. The discussion concluded with a focus on Noah's faith, which allowed him to build a large boat to save his family from the flood. The group was encouraged to reflect on these stories and identify with the faith of these biblical figures.

Exploring Faith in Biblical Figures

Soleil led a discussion on the biblical figures of Noah and Abraham, focusing on the role of faith in their actions. The group discussed how faith allowed Noah to build an ark despite never having seen rain or a flood, and how it enabled Abraham to leave his home and follow God's promise of a new land. The conversation also touched on the theme of community, with Courtney suggesting that faith could be applied to building stronger communities. The group also explored the idea that sometimes, it's just one person with faith who can revolutionize a community, as seen in the stories of Noah and Abraham.

Faith, Trust, and Pillars of Faith

Soleil led a discussion about faith and trust in God, emphasizing the importance of having faith in oneself and others. She shared her belief that one person's faith can inspire others and revolutionize a community. Delese shared her personal struggles with faith, expressing her desire to trust God but being challenged by her emotions and doubts. The group discussed the importance of renewing their minds and trusting God, even when faced with challenges. They also discussed the concept of pillars of faith, drawing inspiration from biblical figures like Abel, Noah, and Abraham. The conversation ended with a reminder from Cousin Jean about God providing the provision for the vision He gives.

Sarah's Faith and God's Plan

Soleil led a discussion about the biblical figure Sarah, wife of Abraham. She highlighted Sarah's initial unbelief and her attempt to take matters into her own hands, which led to her kicking Hagar and Ishmael out. However, Soleil also noted that Sarah eventually believed and was able to fulfill a promise of God by bearing a child, Isaac. She emphasized that Sarah's story serves as an example for those who may feel the need to intervene in God's plans. Jean added that Sarah's faith was an extension of Abraham's faith, and that she was his primary wife. The discussion ended with Soleil encouraging the group to reflect on Sarah's story.

Faith, Perseverance, and Sharing Beliefs

Soleil discussed the importance of faith and perseverance in the face of challenges, using the biblical story of Abraham as an example. She emphasized that even though Abraham did not see the fulfillment of God's promises in his lifetime, he still believed and stayed the course. Soleil also highlighted the importance of focusing on God and staying true to one's beliefs, even when faced with skepticism or disbelief from others. Delese shared her personal experience of trying to share her faith with her family, who were unfamiliar with her religious practices. The discussion concluded with Soleil's encouragement to continue believing in God's promises, even if the outcome is not immediately visible.

Sharing Faith and Planting Seeds

Delese discusses her approach to sharing her faith with her siblings, emphasizing her role in planting seeds of faith through her actions and words. She hopes that her example will impact their lives, even if she doesn't witness their salvation directly. Soleil encourages the group to consider what they are doing by faith, drawing parallels to Noah's story. The discussion then shifts to Abraham's faith in offering Isaac as a sacrifice, highlighting Abraham's unwavering obedience and trust in God's promises.

Faith, Sacrifice, and Future Bible Studies

Soleil discussed the importance of faith and sacrifice in their journey. She emphasized that faith is not about consistent actions but about surrendering and sacrificing beyond one's habits and norms. She used the examples of Abraham and Abel, who brought their best offerings to God, to illustrate this point. Soleil also announced the end of their current Bible study and asked for feedback on what to do next. She suggested continuing with one to two more Bible studies or moving on to book studies, with options including "The Betrayal of Betrayal", "The All of God", "Becoming Whole in a

Fractured World", "Healing the Whole Man Handbook", "The Garden Within", and "Battlefield of the Mind".

Book Study and in-Person Sessions

Soleil led a discussion about a potential book study, encouraging participants to share their preferences and commitments. She also mentioned the possibility of in-person sessions once the weather changes. Soleil expressed her gratitude for the engagement and the opportunity to learn and grow together. She ended the conversation with a prayer, asking for guidance and protection for the group. After the meeting, Soleil planned to share the next steps and details via text or chat.

Study Resource

[Blue Letter Bible](#)

<https://lifebible.com/bible> (Courage for Life NLT - Female Voice)