

Lesson 25 - Hebrews 11:20-40**Main Idea**

Life within the covenant family of God is marked by faith and trust in his covenant promises. Our goal is then to grow in both our understanding of these promises and increasing our faith in the promise keeping God.

Study Questions

1. Do you actively remind yourself of the promises God has made to you as a member of the new covenant family? How does remembering these promises of God affect the way you live? How do they help you fight sin and strive for holiness?
2. How did Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph (the successive heirs of the promises to Abraham) demonstrate faith in the promises of God (see 11:20-22)?
3. What things did Moses do that demonstrated his faith? (See 11:23-28)? In what ways did his actions reveal the worth of God?
4. In your own words expand what the author means by mentioning “disgrace for the sake of Christ” in relation to Moses (see 11:26).
5. Read how the people described in 11:32-38 showed faith. Why were their faith and suffering worthwhile, even though they never received what was promised (see 11:39-40)?
6. Does the inclusion of Rahab in this list surprise you (see 11:31)? What does this tell us about the character of God towards sinners who put their trust in him?

7. In what sense could the Old Testament saints “be made perfect” only together with New Testament believers (see 11:40)?

8. How should God’s faithfulness affect how we understand our circumstances? How do those who have suffered for their faith encourage you to endure?

9. What does it mean to have a future-looking faith? In what ways do the examples found in our text demonstrate a future-oriented faith?

10. Do you feel at home in this world? Do you long for comfort in the culture in which you live? How can you better prepare for the day when Christ will return and you will be home in every sense of the word?

Theological Soundings¹

Worship. Under the mosaic covenant, God’s people could draw near to him in only a limited way, through temple ceremonies. Even then, most of the people of Israel remained in the courtyard, outside the temple (Heb. 9:1-7). In the new covenant, worshippers enjoy the presence of God himself, and in worship they enter before his throne (10:19,22). Through Christ, God makes true worship real for his children (12:28; 13:15-16)

Personal Reflection

- How do these reflections on faith impact you’re thinking and the way you approach the scriptures?

- What areas of your life need a better perspective on faith, your trust in God?

- Consider ways you might begin to exercise this faith in day to day life.

¹ Capps pg. 73