

SERMON SERIES: Hall of Fame
SPEAKER: Campus Pastors
DATE: July 2, 2017



Key Line

Faith is trusting that God knows where you are going, even when you don't.

Seek the Word

How would you define "faith"?

- Read Hebrews 11:1 for a biblical definition of faith.

Hebrews 11 is sometimes called the "Faith Hall of Fame" chapter, and lists many heroes of the faith. Today's "hall of fame" is Abraham (also known as Abram), whose story is found in Genesis.

- Read Genesis 12:1-4. How would you have felt if you were in Abraham's shoes? Notice the promise God gave Abraham.
- Abraham obeyed, and stepped out in faith. BUT that doesn't mean he was perfect...he also had lapses of faith. Read Gen. 12:10-20. In your own words, what was his "lapse of faith"? (*He lied to protect himself, and in the process put his wife in a very bad situation.*)
- But God is merciful. Read Gen 15:1-6, in which God repeats His promise. However, this was ten years after the original promise was made, so in Gen. 16 we see another "lapse of faith" where Abraham (and Sarah [aka Sarai]) take matters into their own hands. (If you have time, read verses 1-6).
- God is again merciful, and repeats His promise (18:10), which is fulfilled in chapter 21 (verses 1-7... read if you have time).
- Then, in an ultimate challenge of faith, God tells Abraham to sacrifice Isaac. Read 22:1-14 (plus verses 15-18 if there's time).

Talk About It

One "opposite" of faith is attempting to take matters into our own hands, just like Abraham and Sarah did. How have you seen that happen in your own life, or in other people's lives? (Be careful not to share names or confidential information!) Discuss how one application of today's lesson is: "my daily faithfulness and obedience to God, as evidenced in the choices I make in life, really matters."

Faith (trusting in God's plan for our lives) is often challenging during seasons of uncertainty in our lives. Give examples of these "seasons", either just in general or from your own life (eg, job loss, health issues, relationship/marriage problems).

In Gen. 22:14 we see the phrase “The Lord Will Provide”, as a result of Abraham believing, and then obeying, God. Share what that phrase means to you... or what it COULD mean to you, especially during seasons of uncertainty. Discuss the renewed strength/hope/peace we can have as we remember that God is with us through times of uncertainty and struggle, as we trust and obey Him.

“Walking by faith means obeying God even when you aren’t sure where He is leading.” What is your reaction to this statement?

Discuss how Abraham’s possible sacrifice of his son is a powerful foreshadowing of God’s actual sacrificing of His son... which is the ultimate example of “The Lord Will Provide.”

Bible Reading Plan

Join us as a church family as we read through the Bible. Download the reading plan at calvary.ch/readthebible/ or on the Calvary.ch App.