

SERMON SERIES: Hall of Fame
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Key Line Faith is seizing the opportunity to walk with God every day.

Introduction: Consider the phrase “you missed the boat”, meaning you missed an opportunity. When in your life have you “missed the boat”? Give examples of regrets people live with.

Today’s faith “hall of famer” is Noah. We’ll look at his example of faith, and how it can help us to NOT miss the boat when it comes to having a real relationship with God.

Seek the Word Review the theme verse for this series, Hebrews 11:1. Then read verse 7, for a one verse summary of Noah.

Next, read Genesis 6:5-9. One version of verse 9 reads “... he walked faithfully with God.” Would you use the word “faithfully” to describe your walk with God? What other words might you use? (ex: “sporadically”, “not at all”, “closely”)

Read verses 11-22. What are some of the challenges/doubts Noah probably faced? (ex: up to this time there had been no rain; it took a long time to build the ark (many years!); people probably mocked him; etc)

Consider 6:22 and 7:5: “Noah did everything God commanded him.” Ask yourself: does that describe me?

Talk About It

Our “key line” today is: *Faith is seizing the opportunity to walk with God every day.* This certainly seems to be an accurate description of Noah. Scott gave us three ideas based on Noah’s life to help us seize the opportunity to walk with God every day.

- 1) *Be obedient, even when you don’t understand.* Give examples of God’s commands that might be hard for you or others to understand / obey (Scott’s examples included: tithing, loving our enemies, not worrying, sex reserved for marriage.)
- 2) *Ignore criticism* from people, as it relates to your decision to follow Jesus. How has this happened in your life, or in the lives of other Christians that you are aware of?
- 3) *Recognize the opportunity.* Noah certainly took advantage of the opportunity God gave him, and thus rescued himself, and his family. Scott told us that the biblical word “saved” actually means “to be rescued.” He also pointed out that 7:7-10 seems to indicate that the ark door

appears to have stayed open for seven days. No one else took advantage of this open door, which certainly supports God's statement that only Noah was righteous (ie, no one else was in tune with God, and aware that they even needed rescuing). Eventually the door was shut. So, if you haven't been "saved" yet, consider seriously taking advantage of the opportunity while you still have the chance.

Close by asking people to share other insights and possible applications of today's key line: Faith is seizing the opportunity to walk with God every day.

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.