

Consider It

How does God's Word define faith (11:1)? Write this definition in your own words.

Why is it impossible to please God without faith that trusts in Him (11:6)?

What was the distinguishing mark of Abraham's faith (11:8)?

What was the distinguishing mark Sarah's faith (11:11)?

It was 10 years from God's promise (Gen 18) to the birth of Isaac (Gen 21). How did faith enable Abraham and Sarah to wait?

What are you waiting for God to do in answer to prayer or in keeping with His promise? Why is it hard to wait?

Think of a time in your life when your trust in God was rewarded. Was it an answer to prayer or a promise kept? How did God demonstrate His faithfulness?

How should faith, believing God's promise and trusting Him change our view of life on earth (11:13-16)?

Why is it more important for us to identify as "aliens and strangers," than American citizens (11:13)?

Live It!

Whose example of faith do you need to follow (Sarah, Mary, Hannah, or Shiphrah and Puah)? Why?

What will you change in your habits this week to follow her example of faith?

Women of Faith

Sarah, Shiphrah, Puah, Mary and Hannah

Heb 11:11; Ex 1:15-20; Lk 10:38-42; 1 Sam 1:10-20

Sunday, May 10, 2020

Sermon Proposition

This generation needs examples of women who exercise faith in God. Would you be that woman?

Follow the Example of Sarah, Believe God's Promise!

Hebrews 11:11; Genesis 17:19 and 21:2

Follow the Example of Shiphrah and Puah, Fear God!

Exodus 1:15-20

Follow the Example of Mary, Sit at Jesus Feet!

Luke 10:38–42

Consider the Example of Hannah, Persevere in Prayer!

1 Samuel 1:10-20

Discussion Questions

"The Exercise of Faith"

Hebrews 11:1-16

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.

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.

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 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.

Hebrews 11:1–3, 6, 8-16 (NIV)

Open It!

Think of a woman whom you admire for her faith. What do you admire about her example?