

## “Faith 101”

### Learning the Kingdom Language of Faith

Tony Thornton, Senior Minister/Itawamba Christian Church

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Today, we start to examine the Virtue of Faith.

Let’s begin by answering 2 questions: What is Faith and Why was and is Faith so very important then and now?

- What is Faith? Faith a Lifestyle distinguished by \_\_\_\_\_

“Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. <sup>2</sup>This is what the ancients were commended for.”

Hebrews 11:1-2

“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. <sup>14</sup>**People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.** <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>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.

- The \_\_\_\_\_ of Faith.

“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.**” Hebrews 11:6

- Why Faith should command my \_\_\_\_\_? Why is Faith so Important Now?

“These were all **commended** for their faith, yet **none of them received** what had been promised, <sup>40</sup>since God had **planned something better for us** so that **only together with us would they be made perfect.**” Hebrews 11:39-40

“Therefore, **since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses**, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us **run with perseverance the race marked out for us**, <sup>2</sup>**fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.** <sup>3</sup>**Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.**” Hebrews 12:1-3

#### Some witnessed phenomenal things as they trusted in God’s promises:

“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, <sup>33</sup>who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised; who shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup>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. <sup>35</sup>Women received back their dead, raised to life again.” Hebrews 11:32-35a

#### Some believed God’s Promises and suffered immensely:

“There were others who were tortured, refusing to be released so that they might gain an even better resurrection. <sup>36</sup>Some faced jeers and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup>They were put to death by stoning, they were sawed in two; they were killed by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— <sup>38</sup>the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, living in caves and in holes in the ground.” Hebrews 11:35b-38

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