

<p>Abel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did 	<p>Isaac</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> lived in tents in a foreign country blessed Jacob and Esau in regard to their future 	<p>Moses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter chose to be mistreated along with God's people left Egypt, unafraid of the king's anger sprinkled Passover blood
<p>Enoch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> pleased God 	<p>Jacob</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> lived in tents in a foreign country when dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons and worshiped 	<p>The people</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> passed through the Red Sea as on dry land marched around the walls of Jericho for seven days
<p>Noah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark 	<p>Joseph</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> when his end was near, gave instructions about what to do with his bones when the future exodus from Egypt occurred 	<p>Rahab</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> welcomed the Jewish spies and protected them
<p>Abraham</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> when called to go to a place he did not know, obeyed and went lived in tents in a foreign country offered Isaac as a sacrifice 	<p>Moses' parents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> hid Moses for three months, unafraid of the king's edict 	<p>Others</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> performed great feats saw great miracles suffered great mistreatment



Faith at Home

Ask each family member to give a specific example of how they are exercising faith in Jesus as they live their lives right now.

Teacher's Toolbox

Getting your class into God's Word
and God's Word into your class

ExcitingBibleStudy.com **Bible Series**

Hebrews 11
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HOW TO USE TEACHER'S TOOLBOX: Make a four-page folded teacher's leaflet from the first two sheets by printing two-sided (or by putting the blank sides together). The other two sheets are for duplicating, displaying, distributing, or otherwise using as called for in the lesson plan.

 **Faith at Home** – A specific application of today's Bible passage to family life, to be used for individual reflection, family discussion, or class activity.

 **Getting Started**

Talking about people we've known

- Have members tell about people of great faith whom they have personally known. Have them give this information (write this on the chalkboard):
 - The person's name.
 - How they knew them.
 - How they would describe their faith.
 - What they did that demonstrated their faith.
- Allow several to share briefly.
- **We could compile a "hall of fame" of faithful believers we know. In a sense, that's what the writer of the Book of Hebrews did in chapter 11, which we will study today. He lists Old Testament figures that demonstrated their faith in God.**

Exploring God's Word

Reading

● Give each person a copy of the following reading (duplicate Item 1), based on Hebrews 11. Either enlist someone to be the "Leader" or do that part yourself. Ask the class to respond in unison.

Reading

LEADER: What is faith?

CLASS: Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for.

LEADER: Can you give me an example?

CLASS: By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away.

LEADER: How do you know Enoch had faith?

CLASS: For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please God.

LEADER: Why is it impossible to please God without faith?

CLASS: Because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

LEADER: What did all the Old Testament heroes of the faith have in common?

CLASS: All these people were still liv-

ing by faith when they died.

LEADER: How do you know they were still living by faith when they died?

CLASS: They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance.

LEADER: What other proof do you have of their faith?

CLASS: They admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own.

LEADER: Weren't they just homesick for the land they had come from?

CLASS: If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. 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. These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

Charting a passage

● **This great faith chapter makes it clear that faith is more than just believing certain facts; faith is demonstrated by action.**

● Give each person a pencil and a copy of the chart illustrated on page 4, but without the information beneath the headings (duplicate Item 3).

● Have members work in groups

of three to five to study the chapter and fill in what each of the Old Testament heroes did to demonstrate their faith.

● After 10-15 minutes, let groups share their findings with the rest of the class.

Making It Personal

Personal analysis and sharing

● Give each person a pencil and a copy of the following (duplicate Item 2).

Personal Analysis

If Hebrews 11 were being written today, would the writer be able to think of anything to say about you?

Use this sheet to help you reflect on your faith-walk with God.

PAST

1. Something I believed God told me to do that may have looked foolish to others:

Wrapping It Up

● After several minutes of sharing, lead the class in a closing prayer.

2. How I responded in faith to what I believed God was telling me (what action I took):

3. How God affirmed my faith-action, or used the incident in my life to bring growth:

PRESENT

4. Something I am beginning to believe is God's will for my life, even though it may seem foolish to others:

FUTURE

5. A faith-action I will take to demonstrate my trust in God regarding the above situation:

● Allow members three to five minutes to complete their sheets.

Then have them get into small groups (three to five persons) and share some of their past, present, and future faith experiences.

● After groups have been sharing for five to ten minutes, invite volunteers to tell the entire class about future faith-actions they are planning to take soon in response to God's leading in their lives.

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LEADER: Can you give me an example?

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LEADER: What other proof do you have of their faith?

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1. Something I believed God told me to do that may have looked foolish to others:

2. How I responded in faith to what I believed God was telling me (what action I took):

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PRESENT

4. Something I am beginning to believe is God's will for my life, even though it may seem foolish to others:

FUTURE

5. A faith-action I will take to demonstrate my trust in God regarding the above situation:

Abel	Isaac	Moses
Enoch	Jacob	The people
Noah	Joseph	Rahab
Abraham	Moses' parents	Others