

Becoming Champions of Faith: Define the Win

Hebrews 10:32-11:4

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Hebrews 10:32-11:4 Remember those earlier days after you had received the light, when you endured in a great conflict full of suffering. ³³ Sometimes you were publicly exposed to insult and persecution; at other times you stood side by side with those who were so treated. ³⁴ You suffered along with those in prison and joyfully accepted the confiscation of your property, because you knew that you yourselves had better and lasting possessions. ³⁵ So do not throw away your confidence; it will be richly rewarded. ³⁶ You need to persevere so that when you have done the will of God, you will receive what he has promised. ³⁷ For, "In just a little while, he who is coming will come and will not delay." ³⁸ And, "But my righteous one will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back." ³⁹ But we do not belong to those who shrink back and are destroyed, but to those who have faith and are saved. 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. ⁴ By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith Abel still speaks, even though he is dead. (NIV)

Our Vision: Connect with Christ, Church, and Community

1. _____ the win

_____ clarity: *This is the new covenant I will grant to them...says the Lord: I will instill my law into their minds and I will write it upon their hearts. I will be their God and they will be my people!*

Jeremiah 38:31,33 (JOT)

_____ passion: Remember your former passion after coming to the light of Christ. You met the challenge of suffering as a world class athlete, endured it despite the strain of public humiliation and persecution...
Hebrews 10:35 (JOT)

2. _____ a championship faith

_____ an eternal perspective: You even had joy when all that you owned was taken from you, because you knew you had something better and more lasting. So do not lose the courage you had in the past, which has a great reward. You must hold on, so you can do what God wants and receive what he has promised.

Hebrews 10:34-36 (NCV)

_____ on hope: Faith is the foundation of everything we hope to receive from God, giving us a compelling conviction of realities that we cannot see. By faith we believe that the eternal Word of God created....
Hebrews 11:1, 3 (JOT)

_____ with spiritual legacy: Through faith Abel offered a more sincere sacrifice than Cain. His trust of the living God testifies of his righteous faith. By this faith, his spiritual legacy speaks volumes to those who offer their gifts seeking to please God!

Hebrews 11:4 (JOT)

3. _____ to God's win

_____ access: And so, dear brothers, now we may walk right into the very Holy of Holies, where God is, because of the blood of Jesus. This is the fresh, new, life-giving way that Christ has opened up for us by tearing the curtain—his human body—to let us into the holy presence of God.

Hebrews 10:19-20 (TLB)

Spiritual Action Step:

Are you tempted to give up? Are you losing the passion of your commitment to serve Christ? Has the enemy beaten you down? The Holy Spirit speaks to all of us in Hebrews 4:16: *Let us therefore draw near with boldness unto the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace to help us in time of need.* (ERV) Jesus died to give you this mercy and grace. It is yours for the asking! Go to God admitting that you need his help and strength. This week read Hebrews 11 and 12 and allow the Holy Spirit to share with you God's love and power.

Translations: NIV: New International Version; JOT: Jon's Own Translation; NCV: New Century Version; TLB: The Living Bible; ERV: English Revised Version.