Resurrecting Hope: Courageous Hope
Hebrews 11:1-10
May 18, 2025
Dr. Jonathan Lovelady

Hebrews 11:1 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. [5] 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." For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. [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. [7] By faith Noah, when warned about things not yet seen, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that is in keeping with faith. [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. (NIV)

Our Vision: Connect with Christ, Church and Community

1. _____ substantive hope

_____ of _____: I shall not place my hope in a weapon and my sword shall not save me, for you are the One who saves us out of our afflictions…. Psalm 44:6-7a (JOT)

_____ our strength: Behold the person who does not put their hope in God's help but fills themselves with false hope…But I am like a green olive tree in the house of God. I trust in the steadfast love of God forever and ever. Psalm 52:7 (JOT) Psalm 52:8 (ESV)

2. _____ to a more courageous hope

_____: We are not going to drop our sails and shipwreck our faith! Never! We will lift our sails with faith and be guided to the salvation of our souls! Faith is the very substance of a living hope and an undying conviction of what we cannot see! Hebrews 10:39-11:1 (JOT)

_____ complacency: It's impossible to please God apart from faith. And why? Because anyone who wants to approach God must believe both that he exists *and* that he cares enough to respond to those who seek him. Hebrews 11:6 (MSG)

_____ follow: Abraham trusted God…Abraham did this because he was confidently waiting for God to bring him to that strong heavenly city whose designer and builder is God. Hebrews 11:8-10 (TLB)

3. _____ to grow in the power of hope

_____ God's love: For I am convinced that death nor life…the things happening today nor the fear of future events…nothing in all of creation has the power separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 8:37-39 (JOT)

Spiritual Action Step:

Are you struggling to find hope? Has despair been consuming your thoughts and withering your spirit? Where do you need to find the courage for greater commitment in your life? The Apostle Paul says: *But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.* (Romans 5:8, NLT) God wants to fill your heart to overflowing! God has shown his complete and unconditional love through Jesus. This love has the power to transform darkness into light, doubts into trust, and despair into a living hope! Accept what he has done for you by asking him to be your Savior and Lord. This week read Hebrews 11 and Romans 5 to allow the Holy Spirit to fill you with love and faith.

Translations: NIV: New International Version; JOT: Jon's Own Translation; ESV: English Standard Version; MSG: The Message; TLB: The Living Bible: NLT: New Living Translation