

GOLD MEDAL FAITH

JULY 28, 2024 | PASTOR MICHAEL FOSTER | HEBREWS 11:1-3, 6

FAITH IS LIKE A SPIRITUAL SIXTH SENSE. WITH CERTAIN MINDFULNESS OF THE PROMISES OF GOD, FAITH PERCEIVES AND ANTICIPATES THE ACTIVITY OF GOD AND THEN COMPELS ONE TO THINK, FEEL, AND ACT ACCORDINGLY.

- ◆ FAITH IS NOT WISHFULNESS, INNER PREMONITION, OR POSITIVE THINKING — IT IS A CERTAINTY WITH SUBSTANCE (v. 1)

- ◆ FAITH IS NOT FOR A SPECIAL CLASS OF PEOPLE — IT IS FOR EVERYONE, EVEN THE FAILED, THE FLAWED, AND THE RELIGIOUS OUTSIDER (v. 2)

- ◆ FAITH IS NOT BLIND — IT IS NOT OPINION WITHOUT EVIDENCE BUT RATHER BELIEF THAT RESTS ON REASONABLE EVIDENCE (v. 3)

- ◆ FAITH IS NOT EMOTIONALISM — IT IS A CONSCIOUS AND DELIBERATE CHOICE (v. 6)

- ◆ FAITH IS NOT AN ADVANCED ADD-ON FOR CHRISTIAN SPIRITUALITY — IT IS THE ONLY WAY TO PLEASE GOD (v. 6)

WHAT IS GOD ASKING YOU TO TRUST HIM FOR TODAY?

WHAT WOULD IT LOOK LIKE FOR YOU TO EXERCISE REAL FAITH IN GOD?

FOR FURTHER ACTION/REFLECTION

- ⇒ Memorize Hebrews 11:6
- ⇒ Read Proverbs 3:5-6, 2 Corinthians 5:7, 1 Peter 1:6-9, Psalm 33:6-9, Mark 11:22-24, Matthew 17:20
- ⇒ Discover This Year's 28 Olympic Christian Athletes: bit.ly/OlympicAthletesC
- ⇒ Read about walking by faith – bit.ly/walkbyfaith2
- ⇒ Pray & Seek God by faith – bit.ly/seekbyfaith1
- ⇒ Read a summary of some scientific evidence for creation - bit.ly/creationscience1
- ⇒ Get familiar with some ministries that seek to provide reasonable scientific evidence for creation, all of which have great resources for kids: bit.ly/creationministries and bit.ly/creationresearch1
- ⇒ Listen to “Blessed Assurance” – bit.ly/blessedassuranceyt
- ⇒ Listen to “Give me Faith” – bit.ly/givemefait0

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What stood out to you most from the message?
2. Do you plan to watch any of the Olympics this year? Which sport are you most interested in? Do have any favorite memories from watching the Olympics in the past?
3. What do you think the average person means when they say, “Just have faith”?
4. Read Hebrews 11:1-3 and verse 6. How would you explain to someone what it means to have faith based on what you have read and heard in Scripture?
5. Based on the promises of God’s word, what are some things you are certain about by faith today?
6. Read 2 Corinthians 5:7. Describe a time when you walked by sight, and not by faith. What happened?
7. What is something in creation to you that is especially beautiful or amazing? What is the most incredible thing in God’s creation you have ever seen? Does observing creation help you to have greater faith in God? Explain.
8. Read Psalm 19:1-2. What does God’s creation reveal about God himself?
9. What is something you need to trust God for by faith today? How will you do that?
10. How does walking by faith lead to a greater joy and freedom for the believer, and to a greater witness in this world?

