

# Moving Forward by Faith

Text: Hebrews 11:7-8

Date: 4-6-25

## I. Noah: Working by faith (Heb. 11:7)

### **\*\*Noah prepared by faith (Heb. 11:7a)**

Noah responded by faith. In Gen. 6:22 we find that Noah obeyed and coupled with Heb. 11:7 he must have obeyed by faith. “But Noah, who had but a fraction of the divine light that we have, did not argue, quibble, make excuses, complain, or procrastinate. He did not question God, but simply began obeying Him”.<sup>1</sup> For many years (maybe 100-120 – Gn. 5:32 cf. 6:3; 7:6), he prepared for something unseen.

Noah’s obedience when he certainly didn’t understand all that was to unfold plus his trust in God give us the blueprint for our lives.

Faith in God must always be borne out in obedience towards God.

Faith trusts God and His plan. Faith accepts God’s Word as truth. Faith listens and hears God. Faith doesn’t argue with God or talk back. This is how Noah lived.

Do you want to know how Noah operated? He was spiritually devoted to doing whatever God told Him to do. This was not only Noah’s way of life; this was an act of worship. He loved God so much that he demonstrated for all those years an awe and reverence for God. Therefore Noah and his family was sufficiently prepared to meet one of the greatest challenges in human history, all because he kept his eyes on God.

### **\*\*Noah preached by faith (Heb. 11:7b)**

The people of that day could not say “there are no righteous ones” for Noah was a preacher of righteousness. They were condemned by their wickedness, but they were also condemned by the sermons of Noah. Noah warned the people of their fate as he preached against their sin. Noah gave the people an opportunity to repent. But, not one convert was won to the truth. In the midst of complete baseness and degradation, in belief Noah gave the warning.

### **\*\*Noah’s promise came in faith (Heb. 11:7c)**

Noah prepared, he preached, and he was protected, all on the basis of faith.

Do you live out a life of faith whereby others know that you believe in God’s promises? Not only was Noah’s position that of righteousness, he put into practice his beliefs.

Just as Noah’s faith prompted him to obey God’s word, so will our demonstration of faith be through our obedience to God and His Word.

## II. Abraham: Father of faith (Heb. 11:8-19)

### **A. Faith Before the Promised Land - Leaving by faith (Heb. 11:8)**

Abraham didn’t know where, how, when, and what in this journey. But, he obeyed. Although he didn’t have a single one at the time, God promised that Abraham would receive an inheritance through his descendants, and that promise came true.

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<sup>1</sup> MacArthur, J. F., Jr. (1983). *Hebrews* (p. 319). Moody Press.

Faith is going when not knowing. Faith doesn't make excuses or arguments. Faith trusts the revelation of God even when everything is not revealed. Faith goes forward when everyone else thinks we are crazy.

Faith trusts God in the blackness as we walk by faith and not sight. God will fulfil His promises, but we must obey.

Faith is growing and not blowing. Faith stands tall and is fastened to the rock of God's truth/ Faith is not being blown over by the winds of those who live by earthly standards. Faith is taking a step forward while anchored to the One who leads in each step. Faith is not some random stab in the dark. The light of the Word of God shines in the darkest of paths.

Faith is accepting and expecting even when we yet haven't been experiencing. Faith accepts God's will and expects God's promise even though we haven't seen everything fulfilled. Abraham is that example.