

## **Bible Study for August 1-7, 2022**

**Read:** Hebrews 11:1-16

### **Notes:**

As we are back to readings from the book of Hebrews, perhaps a refresher on its background is called for.

Not a lot is known about the background to the book of Hebrews. Who wrote it, and when exactly it was written are still a bit of a mystery. We do know however, who it was written to; Jewish Christian believers who were suffering persecution for their faith to the point that they were tempted to abandon Christianity. Hebrews then, is a letter of encouragement for believers to hold on, to persevere in spite of their circumstances.

The author does this by showing the reader that the New Covenant in Christ is so superior to the Old Covenant that to fall away from Christ should be unthinkable. Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation; to be trusted in all our experiences in life.

In this week's lesson we find that Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

### **Questions to Ponder:**

What's one positive adjective you would use to describe each person in your family?

What verbs describe faith? What is the object of these verbs?

Is our faith directed toward the future, the present, or both?

In verses 8 and onward, how is faith demonstrated or explained in each of the examples from Abraham's life?

What do you learn about faith from the example of Moses?

What are some verbs that describe your present level of faith?

Of the people mentioned in this section, with whom do you feel you have the most in common?