

By Faith: Trusting in the Promises of God

Read Hebrews 11:1-13 then briefly consider the questions below.

This week in Sunday School, the kids are learning about the faithfulness of God. Hebrews 11 is often referred to as the “Hall of Faith” as it gives a brief summary of God’s promises fulfilled in the lives of the patriarchs. As we continue in our season of Advent, what a perfect time to reflect on the promises of God and His faithfulness! We celebrate Christmas as the fulfillment of the most incredible promise of all, the coming of God’s son, Jesus, into the world. As our culture focuses on shopping lists and decorations, let’s choose to remember this promise that has been fulfilled and praise God for his incredible faithfulness in our lives.

Verse 11 tells us that Sarah “considered him faithful who had made the promise.”

Like Sarah, do you consider God to remain faithful to the promises He has given you?

- Take a moment to read each passage noting what God has promised to do for His children: (Ex: Luke 12:24→ God promises to provide for my needs).
 - 2 Thessalonians 3:3→
 - Isaiah 40:29→
 - Deuteronomy 31:8→
 - Philippians 4:6-7→
- How does reading Hebrews 11 help us trust that God will be faithful to the promises He has given? What promises are you struggling to believe right now?

Many of these “heroes of faith” did not see the promises of God fulfilled. Like us, they were “foreigners and strangers on earth” patiently waiting for the day God’s promises would be fulfilled.

- Consider what promises God has given you. How might some of these promises be “welcomed from a distance” (vs 13)?

As we read about Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Moses, and many others, it often feels as if they had exceptional faith. Just like these heroes, we are waiting for the rest of God’s promises to be fulfilled, the day when all things are made new.

- What attitude should we have as we wait for the fulfillment of all God’s promises?

- How does Advent help you reorient your heart towards trusting in the promises of God?

Let's pray:

Father, thank you for this Christmas season and the chance to remember your faithfulness. From the beginning, you promised redemption for your creation and you have shown yourself faithful through giving us your son, Jesus. Please help us to continue trusting in your promises as we wait in eager expectation of your return and the day when all things will be made new.

In Your Name we pray,

Amen.