



FaithFull

Week 5 | Noah and the Work of Faith

September 20, 2026

Reading of the Word – **A Working Faith**

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Hebrews 11:7 (ESV)

By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

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- Abel's faith was a **worshipping faith**. Enoch's faith was a **walking faith**. And today, we'll see in Noah, a **working faith**.
- Christian faith is a power that is built upon ideas.
- Noah's story teaches us that real faith is always a power in our lives that moves us to do, to act, and to work.

How was faith a power to Noah?

The living principle of Noah's life was faith.

- By faith Noah...vs 7 starts. And Noah's life is one that shows us all the things a life can do when it's lived by faith...that's the end of vs 7.
- Everything about Noah that is held up for us as an example, grew out of his faith.

Noah's faith... was an every day faith.

- Noah found favor in the eyes of God. (Genesis 6:8) In fact the next verse will say that Noah, just like his great grandfather Enoch, walked with God. It will say of Noah that he was righteous and blameless in his generation.
- Noah's common everyday conduct being determined by his faith in God.
- Spurgeon put it this way: *That faith must be a constant tenant, not an occasional guest.*
- Noah's faith was everyday. He had faith way before he ever entered an ark. We need ordinary faith, seven days a week.

Noah's faith was comprehensive.

- Genesis 6:13 says that God came to Noah and told him his plan. I'm going to end all flesh on the earth. It's corrupt and violent, so I will destroy it all.
- But you, Noah, you I will save. I will establish my covenant with you and your family.
- Noah believed both. In faith, he believed both the promise and the warning.
- You don't build an ark to escape a flood unless you believe also that there will be a flood.

Noah's faith trusted the impossible.

- God said, because I will flood the world, Noah, build an ark.
- Noah trusted God's warning and his word. He built an ark, probably for 100+ years he built an ark.
- Noah's faith didn't have anything to do with what was probable or improbable, but only with what God said.
- When God speaks, we learn to believe even what we cannot comprehend. We learn to expect what we never would have otherwise looked for.
- What God has spoken, he will make good.

Noah's faith was lived out alone.

- If you count Noah's family, his wife, his sons, their wives...then Noah wasn't alone. But really...he was alone.
- 2 Peter 2:5 tells us that Noah was a herald of righteousness. How?]
- Hebrews says it this way: Noah condemned the world. To condemn the world means to prove it wrong and stand against it.

- For 120 years Noah preached a flood was coming, but at the end of all that time not one person outside of his family was willing to step into the ark with him.

Noah's faith was long.

- 120 years in the exercise of faith in a flood to come. With no evidence at all.
- We begin to doubt after 120 days.
- Noah trusted and without one doubt waited for God to act in his own time.

Noah's faith meant turning from the world.

- See Noah and his family getting in to the ark. It only has one door on the side. It has only one window in the top. Maybe the window was an overhang around the perimeter that let light in and gave some light ventilation. And they're in there with a zoo. Birds and beasts and reptiles.
- Noah, you've built a prison for yourself.
- The Lord shut him in the ark. And when that happened, they were now dead to the world.
- If Noah would have lived with the world, he would have died with the world. The only salvation was to turn from it.

Noah didn't just believe in God, he believed God.

- He let what God said about reality define reality instead of what he saw and what he felt.
- Faith as a power in your life comes when you stop just believing in God, and you start believing what he says. It's not just believing in God, but believing God.
- Hebrews text says that belief moved Noah in reverent fear. Fear doesn't mean scared. It means awe. It means respect. It means focus.
- The people of the world didn't tremble in fear until the water reached their rooftops. But Noah trembled in fear the second God spoke.
- That's faith.



Two pictures that help us see the heart of the gospel—and what it means to live by faith:



An heir.

- Noah became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.
- What's an heir?
 - An heir is someone who gets rich because of someone else. Not because they did anything, achieved anything, produced anything, but simply because of their

relationship.

- Every one of us has drilled into our heart the idea that when it comes to God, we have to achieve and live a righteous moral life.
- The gospel of Jesus is not that you do something, but that you receive something.
- Christianity says that Jesus is the one who has put together the record and now you inherit his righteousness.
 - Look at Noah's righteousness: he became an heir of righteousness that **comes** by faith.
 - All you can do is inherit. You can't earn.
- How is that even possible?



The ark.

- The flood of God's judgement is coming. Not one of us will survive it. We're all going to sink and drown.
 - Scripture tells us that God is a fair judge. Not one of us will be able to live up to the standards we have imposed on other people. Our own words will condemn us.
- What hope is there for us?
 - The ark. There's only one person that has ever faced the flood of God's judgement and survived: Jesus.
 - Jesus lived the perfect life for you and me and died the perfect death to pay for our sins.
- Hebrews is telling us that the way to be saved from the flood is to get in the ark. The ark is Jesus.
 - The rainbow comes out, and God makes a promise: I'll never do that again.

Genesis 8:21, God says that the intention of man's heart is evil from his youth. Do you remember, that's what brought the flood in the first place. God knows a flood won't change that. So he says, neither will I curse the ground because of man again.

- And he sets the rainbow in the clouds, and says, *When you see it, know that I will remember the covenant I've made to never curse life with a flood like this again.*

Every rainbow you ever see, is God saying to you, *There is no more judgement on you, because my Son took it.* The rainbow is for you, but it cost God his Son.

Jesus is the ark. Hide in the ark. Be saved.

*By prayer I will wrestle,
And he will perform;
With Christ in the vessel
I smile at the storm.*

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