

S.A.F.E. Homes

Strengthening Apostolic Families Everywhere



“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.”

Hebrews 11: 6

Miraculous Faith

The Book of Acts records many miraculous happenings throughout its pages. ***“And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people,” (Acts 5: 12).*** Just think, for three and a half years the disciples walked with Jesus, watching Him heal the sick, raise the dead, open blind eyes, and causing the lame to walk. They knew that through the power in Jesus’ name, those miracles were still available to the church.

In spite of the many wonderful things taking place in Jerusalem, religious leaders of the day attacked those committed to serving Jesus and even threw them into prison. But the angel of the Lord came by night and brought them out without the guards even realizing they were gone! (Acts 5:19). And what did the apostles do? They went straight back into the temple and started teaching the people about Jesus.

When the leaders in Jerusalem realized the apostles were back in the temple, they said, ***“Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine,” (Acts 5: 28).*** Peter and the other apostles were glad to give this simple, yet profound, answer, which is still true today, ***“We ought to obey God rather than men,” (Acts 5: 29).***

Fury filled the Pharisees’ hearts as they discussed ways to slay these disciples of Jesus. A very wise man within their ranks, Gamaliel, stood and cautioned the religious leaders. ***“...let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought: But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God,” (Acts 5: 38 – 39).*** With this, the Pharisees decided to beat the apostles and release them with orders not to spread the message of Jesus. The disciples went on their way, ***“rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name, ... but they ceased not to teach and to preach Jesus Christ!” (Acts 5: 41-42).***

Now that is the kind of faith that brings miracles and wonders!

Family Prayer: Dear Jesus, it is a privilege to live for You. Help me to be strong in the face of any opposition I may face. In Jesus’ Name. Amen.

**Includes
Family
Activities**

**Want more?
Scroll down for
Bonus Pages**



It is often easier to criticize than it is to compliment. Tape a piece of paper on the back of each family member. Have each person write one or two things that they like about that person (younger children might draw a simple picture). The papers can be inexpensively laminated for a keepsake.

Let's talk

Have you ever faced persecution for being a Christian? If so, you're not alone. How did you respond? Did this weaken or strengthen your faith? Has someone ever stepped in to defend you like Gamaliel did for the apostles?

It is so much easier to criticize than it is to compliment. Make a special effort this week to focus on the positive traits in the people you are around, rather than the negatives. Notice whether your words tend to lift others up or tear them down. The joy you spread will come back to bless you!



Additional Challenges

Hebrews 11 is commonly known as God's Hall of Faith. Let's check out some of the people who demonstrated miraculous faith throughout the ages.

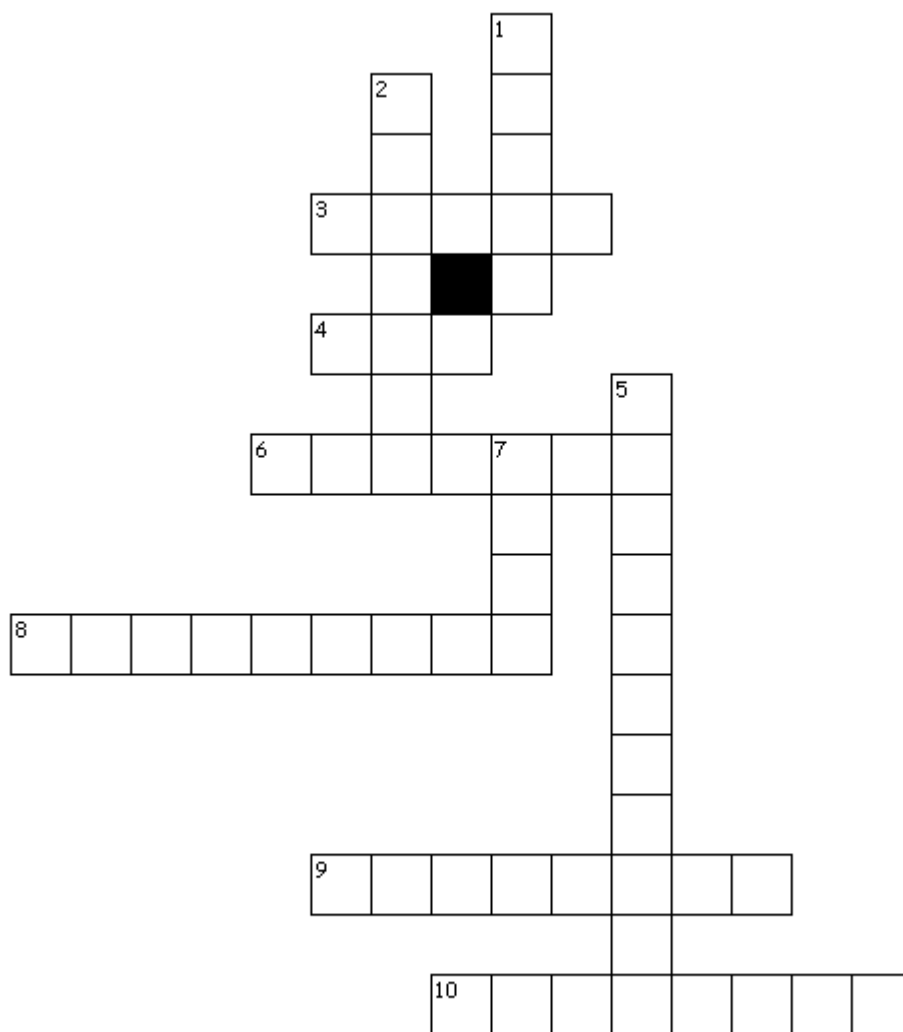
- Now faith is the substance of things _____ for, the _____ of things not _____.
- Who offered a more excellent sacrifice, Cain or Abel? _____
- What happened to Enoch? _____ What was his testimony?

- Who was saved because Noah built an ark? _____
- By faith _____, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, _____; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.
- Why was Sara able to have a child when she was past the age? _____

- These all died in _____, not having received the _____, but having seen them afar off, and were _____ of them, and _____ them, and _____ that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

Many more heroes of the faith are listed in this chapter. Take a few moments to read about what those who have gone before us have suffered. It is encouraging to know others have shown unwavering faith in God!

Puzzle Page



Across

3. Who brought them out of prison?
4. "We ought to obey God rather than ____"
6. They were ordered not to spread their ____
8. They beat the apostles before releasing them
9. He cautioned the religious leaders to leave the apostles alone
10. They were accused of filling Jerusalem with their ____

Down

1. The disciples walked with Jesus for ____ 1/2 years
2. This kind of faith brings miracles and ____!
5. They ceased not to teach ____
7. This book records many miracles

Let faith be your anchor

