

**"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan****Hebrews 11****Hebrews 11**

***Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see. Through their faith, the people in days of old earned a good reputation. By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.*** (Hebrews 11:1-3)

What you just read above is the true Biblical definition of what faith is. It is the definition of the essence of faith. Faith is trust. Faith is commitment. *"Faith is not a leap into darkness"* rather it is *a leap into light*, God's light, God's words, God's truth! A little child doesn't leap off the counter or table into their father's waiting arms because they wish or hope maybe their loving father will catch them. They leap over and over again into the arms of the loving father because they know that he will never let them fall. In reality, they know he would do anything including give his life for them because he loves them and told them and showed them by his truthfulness and faithfulness that he would do what he says.

Hebrews eleven has been called the *"Hall of Fame of Faith."* Why did God give us so many wonderful and varied illustrations of what "faith" looks like? This is evidence of what I have told you on several occasions before this chapter. It is a principal method of learning and teaching truth. This is the principle we all must learn, especially as it relates to sharing and passing on Biblical truth. *"The more abstract the concept the more varied, vivid, and numerous must be the illustrations to understand its depth!"* Faith is such an abstract, transcendent idea and concept that God used almost forty verses to illustrate it with the most well-known of all the *heroes of faith* in the Bible. The Story of Noah is the most striking to me, as it strikes me that it had never rained. Noah lived in a world that was under the greenhouse effect. He was doing something that he had never experienced. He trusted God's word for 120 years while building a "boat" something he had never seen or heard of before. He took God at His word. How do we know that? We see his actions. Faith always results in actions. This is the contrast we will see when we come to the Book of James and contrast that with the Book of Romans. We will see that Paul and James were on the same page but emphasized different aspects of what it means to walk in faith.

**Prayer and Action Steps**

***Read vv.32-35 and name the events of people that are referred to in those verses. Who were the characters that were in mind that participated in the events mentioned in vv. 33.34.35?***