Sermon Title: The Power of Faith

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.

 Hebrews 12:1 NLT

**FAITH TO BELIEVE**

 When You don’t fully Understand

It was by faith that Noah built a large boat to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before. By his faith Noah condemned the rest of the world, and he received the righteousness that comes by faith. It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going.

 Hebrews 11:7-8 NLT

 When it sounds ridiculous

It was by faith that even Sarah was able to have a child, though she was barren and was too old. She believed[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+11%3A11%2C+17-19&version=NLT#fen-NLT-30144a)] that God would keep his promise.

 Hebrews 11:11 NLT

It was by faith that Abraham offered Isaac as a sacrifice when God was testing him. Abraham, who had received God’s promises, was ready to sacrifice his only son, Isaac, 18even though God had told him, “Isaac is the son through whom your descendants will be counted.

 Hebrews 11:17-18 NLT

**FAITH TO REJECT**

 The approval of man

It was by faith that Moses’ parents hid him for three months when he was born. They saw that God had given them an unusual child, and they were not afraid to disobey the king’s command. It was by faith that Moses, when he grew up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter.

 Hebrews 11:23-24

 The pleasures of this world

5He chose to share the oppression of God’s people instead of enjoying the fleeting pleasures of sin.

 Hebrews 11:25

**FAITH TO INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION**

 To receive God’s blessings

It was by faith that Isaac promised blessings for the future to his sons, Jacob and Esau. It was by faith that Jacob, when he was old and dying, blessed each of Joseph’s sons and bowed in worship as he leaned on his staff.

 Hebrews 11:20-21

 To look for God’s deliverance

It was by faith that Joseph, when he was about to die, said confidently that the people of Israel would leave Egypt. He even commanded them to take his bones with them when they left.

 Hebrews 11:22

**FAITH TO REMAIN**

 Through suffering

Some were jeered at, and their backs were cut open with whips. Others were chained in prisons. 37Some died by stoning, some were sawed in half,[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Hebrews+11%3A36-37&version=NLT#fen-NLT-30170a)] and others were killed with the sword. Some went about wearing skins of sheep and goats, destitute and oppressed and mistreated.

 Hebrews 11:36-37

 Through delay

All these people earned a good reputation because of their faith, yet none of them received all that God had promised.

 Hebrews 11:39