



## Cultivating Faith and Faithfulness Even When We Don't Feel Like It Part 2

Hebrews was written as an encouragement to some very discouraged people. We remember from Part 1 of our study that Jesus is the perfect reflection of God, He is our High Priest, and He prays for us before the throne of God.

The author of Hebrews wants the people to remember their history as they have a part in God's story. The Bible was given to us as a story to follow, wisdom to understand, and admonitions so that we can live a good life.

There has been a battle for the allegiance of believers throughout all of history. Do not throw away your confidence. You have need of endurance...keep obeying, keep staying faithful where you are. We are not of those who shrink back, but of those who have faith to the perseverance of the soul.

### *Read*

Spend some time reading the book of Hebrews this month. Focus on chapters 10 and 11.

Read the following Old Testament passages: II Samuel 6, I Samuel 16, and some Psalms of David.

### *Reflect*

We read in Hebrews that without faith it is impossible to please God. Having faith is not about being perfect or never doubting, but seeking God with your whole heart. It is believing that we will be in a kingdom with him forever, and that He is a rewarder of those who seek him.

Look at the circumstances of your own life. Are there areas where God is asking you to step out in faith? To be a different kind of hero in your own life? To accept people who don't fit the norm? To live for ideals the world doesn't approve of?

Is God asking you to look beyond your own expectations and worship from the heart as in the story of David and Michal? Is God calling you to be more like David? To love the "Davids" in your own life? Faith is being sure of things that we cannot yet see.

David is an example for us. In spite of all of his flaws, he became the lineage through which Jesus Christ came. He showed us what it meant to live by faith and have a heart for God.

## *Pray*

Spend some time in prayer. Ask God to search your heart and help you be a person of the heart.

Pray that you will worship Him in all you do out of obedience because of your love for Him.

Pray that the Lord will give you the endurance to walk in faith right where you are and the confidence to step out in faith where He is calling you.

## *Commit*

Make a commitment in your heart to step out in faith and choose endurance, staying faithful in the midst of your circumstances. Commit to memorize one or more of the verses.

## *Some Key Verses:*

“For the vision is yet for the appointed time;  
It hastens toward the goal and it will not fail.  
Though it tarries, wait for it;  
For it will certainly come, it will not delay.”

*Habakkuk 2:3*

Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised.

*Hebrews 10:35-36*

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

*Hebrews 11:1*

And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.

*Hebrews 11:6*

Then it happened as the ark of the Lord came into the city of David that Michal the daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord; and she despised him in her heart.

But when David returned to bless his household, Michal the daughter of Saul came out to meet David and said, “How the king of Israel distinguished himself today! He uncovered himself today in the eyes of his servants’ maids as one of the foolish ones shamelessly uncovers himself!” So David said to Michal, “It was before the Lord, who chose me above your father and above all his house, to appoint me ruler over the people of the Lord, over Israel; therefore I will celebrate before the Lord. I will be more lightly esteemed than this and will be humble in my own eyes, but with the maids of whom you have spoken, with them I will be distinguished.” Michal the daughter of Saul had no child to the day of her death.

*II Samuel 6:16, 20-23*

But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for God sees not as man sees, for man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

*I Samuel 16:7*