



Open it

1. Who is a strong Christian in your eyes? What makes them a strong Christian?

Daily Devotions

Day 1

Today's Theme: Explore It

Read Hebrews 11:14–35a

2. Who are some of the people God uses as examples of their faith?
3. What did these people all acknowledge?
4. What has God prepared for these people of faith?
5. At the end of the section, what actions are done through faith?

Day 2

Today's Theme: Examples of Faith

Read Hebrews 11:4–12; 17–31

Testimonies are a powerful tool for sharing the Gospel with those around us. Hebrews 11 is filled with essentially mini-testimonies of many Bible characters that we're familiar with—Moses, Abraham, David, and Joseph, but we even hear of some we may not be as familiar with like Gideon, Barak, and Jephthah.

A lot of times when we read these stories, we get really excited about these characters, but in reality, these stories and these people are talked about because they listened to the greatest character—God himself.

Our testimonies are often stories about what we have gone through, but they always end with good news of our finally listening to God. And when we listen to God, incredible faith builds.

6. What's one of your favorite stories about one of the people listed in this chapter?

7. What is something that God has told you through His Word that you want to believe? How do you think that this faith can change your life?

Day 3

Today's Theme: Citizens of Heaven

Read Hebrews 11:13–16

When I lived in Canada, the biggest culture shock that I have ever experienced was during the Canada Day celebration. I went to the harbor to watch the fireworks and people were coming from all over to see the show. As it started getting late, people started to set up where they would sit on the grass. And if people didn't have a blanket, a lot of people brought their Canadian flags, set them on the ground and sat on them.

This was mind-blowing and very uncomfortable for me. If someone did that in America, it would be seen as disrespectful, and someone would say something about this. Not only was it not uncomfortable for them, but it was not uncommon to see. One of my friends actually encouraged me to use my flag since I didn't have a blanket!

I knew I was an outsider at that point. And for the people of great faith described in this chapter, they felt like outsiders too. Not because they felt like they didn't belong in Israel, but they didn't feel like they belonged in this world. We were created for a world in perfect relationship with God, not one marred by sin. Thankfully, God has prepared a place for us where we can experience just that.

8. What are you most looking forward to about heaven?

9. What about life here on earth makes you feel like you don't belong? Is there anything?

Day 4

Today's Theme: Promises from God

Read Hebrews 11:32–35

Faith is the most repeated word in this chapter. That's what this chapter is all about! But the reason these people had faith was that they all held onto the second most repeated word in this chapter: promises. Promises, specifically promises from God, are the foundation for our faith. Let's explore some promises from God.

God will guide us—Psalm 119:105

God gives us peace—Romans 5:1

We cannot be separated from God's love for us—Romans 8:38–39

We belong to God—John 1:12

God gives us strength—Isaiah 40:29

God will provide for us—Philippians 4:19

God will fight for us—Exodus 14:14

10. Are there any other promises of God in Scripture that you can think of? List the promise and the verse below.

11. Which of these promises are the most hopeful to you?

12. How can God's promises help you live by faith today?