

Sermon Notes

God Does Great Things through People of Faith but also They May Experience Suffering and Persecution

Hebrews 11:30-40

Christian Sanich, 2/19/2017

Text sermon questions, during the sermon, to (602) 824-8030

11:30 By faith the walls of Jericho fell after being encircled for 7 days.

**A person of faith obeys God, even when God's instructions
don't seem to make sense to our logic or past experience.**

11:31 By faith Rahab did not perish after she had welcomed the spies.

Sometimes trusting the Lord protects us from harm.

11:32-35a God has done great things through people who trusted Him.

We need to realize we need God's power, so that we will live in
trust and dependance upon God,

to resist temptation, to defeat sin, to serve effectively,
to live the ways God says are right...

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God can do great things through you, if you live in trust of Him.

11:35b-38 **Sometimes people who trust the Lord experience
persecution and suffering.**

How can we possibly be live like these amazing people?

Keep your eyes on the resurrection.

11:39-40 Those people of faith were awaiting the resurrection like us.

Their perfection, like ours, awaits resurrection.

We are all imperfect people. But we can live by faith.

What is your response to this? Discuss it with someone today.

Suggested reading: Ephesians 6:10-18, 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

If you would like to receive weekly sermon application questions,
e-mail Christian@StoneCreekBibleChurch.org

Application questions for 2/19/17 sermon

Hebrews 11:30-40

**God Does Great Things through People of Faith
but also They May Experience Suffering and Persecution**

Consider Hebrews 11:32-35a for this set of questions.

Do you believe that God does great things through ordinary people who trust Him? Do you believe God will do great things through you, if you live in trust of Him? (Remember that according to the passage even just doing the things that God says are right - righteousness - are great things.) Explain why.

How do you actually go about trying to depend on God in various things, things such as: to resist temptation, to defeat sin, to serve effectively, to live the ways God says are right?

(Try to have everyone answer this question.)

In what thing(s) do you think you need to depend on God more, and show your trust in Him? And how do you think you need to go about doing that?

Consider Hebrews 11:35b-40 for this set of questions.

If you think about facing persecution and suffering for your faith in Christ, how do you think you will respond? And if the way you want to respond is different than that, how do you want to respond?

How do you think we can hold tightly to our faith in Christ, keep living for Him and keep proclaiming Him, in the midst of suffering persecution? What do we need to think about, focus on, or do?

(Make sure to make it to this set of questions.)

The next set of questions is based on the general idea of living by faith, which we have studied all

through chapter 11. In the following questions, I'm using "successful" to summarize what I think we have seen in chapter 11 - people who God seems to work through, and those who seem to keep their relationship strong with God when things are tough, and those who seem to keep progressing/ maturing in living God's ways.

Do you think that faithful Christians are naturally better than you, or their life situation is better than yours, in some way?

Who are some people who did some great thing by faith according to Hebrews 11, but based on what we know from their lives recorded in Genesis or Exodus, we know they were not naturally better or always faithful, or their life situation was not better than yours?

According to what you've learned in chapter 11, what behaviors, practices, or thinking of people of faith, would you really like to take on?

Do you have a question for the group? It might be something you don't understand that others could help with, or something you think should be covered that hasn't.

(If you have time.)

Consider Hebrews 11:30 for the next set of questions. (If you were already had group on the week that this issue was previously in a sermon, and so you recognize these questions as having been discussed, you can skip the next three questions.)

Have you faced a situation where God was telling you something, in His word or seemed to be guiding you by His Spirit, which didn't make sense to your reasoning? What did you do and why? Did you see the wisdom of His ways later?

If, in the future, you face a situation where God was telling you something, by His word or His Spirit, which doesn't make sense to your reasoning, how do you want to respond? Why, and how will you prepare yourself to respond that way?