

SERMON OUTLINE

In Hebrews 11:4-7, we are shown 3 examples of pre-flood faith.

- I. By faith Abel was justified (v. 4).
- II. By faith Enoch pleased God (v. 5).
 - A. No one pleases God without faith (v. 6a).
 - B. No one draws near to God without believing:
 - 1. He exists (v. 6b).
 - 2. He rewards (v. 6c).
- III. By faith Noah was saved (v. 7a).
 - A. By faith he condemned the world (v. 7b).
 - B. By faith he inherited righteousness (v. 7c).

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, January 24, 2021

Passage: Hebrews 11:4-7

Memory Passage: Hebrews 11:7

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb. 11:4-7 & Gen. 4:1-16.** According to Genesis, why does God accept Abel's offering but not Cain's?
- (b) Was Able commended as righteous because of his faith or his sacrifice (cf. "through which" in v. 4)?
- (c) How does the author of Hebrews know Abel was righteous (cf. 10:38)?
- (d) Explain how Abel "through his faith . . . still speaks" (cf. Gen. 4:10; Matt. 23:35; Heb. 12:24; 1 John 3:12).

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb. 11:4-7 & Gen. 5:22-24.** What do you learn about Enoch in Genesis?
- (b) Our author quotes the Septuagint (Greek translation of the OT) which translated Gen. 5:24 as "Enoch pleased God." What action in the OT text conveys the truth that God was pleased with Enoch and how does Heb. 10:38-39 inform your answer?
- (c) What have you already learned about "drawing near" to God in Hebrews (cf. 4:16; 7:25; 10:1, 22)?
- (d) Explain the 2 characteristics that must mark anyone who desires to draw near to God (11:6).

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb. 11:4-7 & Gen. 6:9-7:5.** What were the "events unseen" about which God warned Noah (Heb. 11:7)?
- (b) What was Noah's response to God's word (Gen. 6:22; 7:5)?
- (c) To what does "by this" (11:7) refer, Noah's faith or Noah's actions? How do you know?
- (d) In what way does Noah's obedience "condemn the world" (11:7)?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb. 11:4-7.** How do Abel, Enoch, and Noah each exemplify the truth of Hebrews 10:38-39?
- (b) How do Abel's offering and God's acceptance of it inspire your daily life of worship (cf. Rom. 12:1-2)?
- (c) In what ways does your life reflect your belief that God exists and He rewards those who seek Him (v. 6)? Do you act as if He exists and rewards? Do you speak as if He exists and rewards? Love? Minister? Fight sin? Evangelize? Disciple? Worship (both corporately and privately)?
- (d) In what ways are you being rewarded by God as you draw near to Him?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Heb. 11:4-7.** In what ways do you exemplify "reverent fear" (v. 7) toward God? In what ways do you not, but should, exemplify reverent fear toward God, and what will you do to change in these areas?
- (b) In what ways can you reprioritize your daily life to better "please God" (cf. Matt. 3:17; John 8:29; Heb. 13:16)?
- (c) Consider the list you just made in (b) and describe the difference between accomplishing those activities "by faith" and accomplishing them without faith. What are some of the pitfalls you must watch for to make sure you are operating "by faith," for "without faith it is impossible to please God" (v. 6)?
- (d) Of what "things not seen" are you convicted that fuel your walk by faith in these areas (11:1)?

DATE: January 24, 2021

PASSAGE: Hebrews 11:4-7

By Faith before the Flood