

Summit Woods Baptist Church
Sermon Study Equipping Class

Hebrews 11:17-22

Remember to begin your study early in the week so that you have time to really think (and keep thinking) about the passage without being rushed.

❖ **DAY 1**

Read Hebrews 11:17-22

For these lessons, the sermon text is provided in a format that visually helps display the structure of the paragraph or section of text. The main verbs are underlined. Commands are double-underlined. Generally, the main indicative clauses remain to the left, and the other clauses are either directly underneath when they have equal priority to what comes before or are tabbed to the right when the clause supports, develops, or draws a conclusion from a neighboring clause.

17 By faith Abraham,
when he was tested,
offered up Isaac,
and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son;
18 it was he to whom it was said,
“IN ISAAC YOUR DESCENDANTS SHALL BE CALLED.”
19 He considered
that God is able to raise people
even from the dead,
from which he also received him back as a type.
20 By faith
Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau,
even regarding things to come.
21 By faith Jacob,
as he was dying,
blessed each of the sons of Joseph,
and worshiped,
leaning on the top of his staff.
22 By faith Joseph,
when he was dying,
made mention of the exodus of the sons of Israel,
and gave orders concerning his bones.

1. Read Genesis 22:1-14. What did God command Abraham to do to his son Isaac?
2. What did Abraham do after receiving the command from God? What characterized his response?

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3. How does the end of verse 17 describe Isaac?
4. Abraham did have other sons with Hagar and Keturah besides Isaac. Why do you think the author speaks of Isaac as Abraham's *only* son?
5. According to verse 18, what promise had God given Abraham regarding Isaac?
6. How might God's command of Genesis 22:2 seem to come against the earlier promise made to Abraham?
7. If you were in Abraham's shoes, how might you have felt when you heard God's command to sacrifice your only son?
8. How is Abraham's act of obedience an act of great faith?

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❖ **DAY 2**

Read Hebrews 11:17-22 again.

9. What did Abraham believe would happen if Isaac were sacrificed?

10. What does Abraham's belief say about his faith in God and His promises?

11. What do you think it means that Abraham "received him back as a type?" *Note: the Greek word translated "as a type" is "parabole," from which we get the word parable.*

12. Reread Genesis 27 to recall the blessings of Jacob and Esau. What was the nature of Jacob's blessing? What about Esau's blessing?

13. How did Isaac bless Jacob and Esau "regarding things to come?" How are his blessings looking to the future?

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14. How was Isaac expressing faith in God through his blessings of Jacob and Esau?

❖ **DAY 3**

Read Hebrews 11:17-22 again.

15. Which son received the right hand of blessing? Where before have we seen something similar?

16. How are Jacob's actions of Genesis 48 an expression of faith? How do we see faith in his blessings?

17. Read Genesis 50:22-26. How did Joseph make "mention of the exodus of the sons of Israel?"

18. In Genesis 50:24, where does Joseph say God will bring them when they come out of Egypt?

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19. How do you see Joseph's faith in his words about the future exodus?
20. What were Joseph's "orders concerning his bones?" Where did Joseph want his bones to go?
21. Read Exodus 13:17-22. What became of Joseph's bones after the exodus from Egypt?
22. How many generations had it been since God's original promise of land? Why is it significant to our consideration of Joseph's faith?
23. Which promises of God are you still holding onto in faith, but that promise is still awaiting fulfillment? How is this passage instructive to you?

This week, thank God for the examples of persevering faith in Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. Praise God for his faithfulness to bring about everything He has promised. Pray that the Spirit would grant you peace and patience as you await the final fulfillment of some of God's promises. Pray that you might learn from the examples of men who, though imperfect, made faith in God the trajectory of their lives.