

Summit Woods Baptist Church  
Sermon Study Equipping Class

Hebrews 11:8-12

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 11:8-12.

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.

- 8** By faith Abraham,  
when he was called,  
obeyed  
by going out to a place  
which he was to receive  
for an inheritance;  
and he went out,  
not knowing where he was going.
- 9** By faith  
he lived  
as an alien  
in the land of promise,  
as in a foreign *land*,  
dwelling in tents with Isaac and Jacob,  
fellow heirs of the same promise;
- 10** for he was looking for the city  
which has foundations,  
whose architect and builder is God.
- 11** By faith  
even Sarah herself received ability to conceive,  
even beyond the proper time of life,  
since she considered Him faithful who had promised.
- 12** Therefore there was born even of one man,  
and him as good as dead at that,  
*as many descendants AS THE STARS OF HEAVEN IN NUMBER,*  
*AND INNUMERABLE AS THE SAND WHICH IS BY THE SEASHORE.*

Summit Woods Baptist Church  
Sermon Study Equipping Class

1. For the sake reminder, describe the context of Hebrews 11 and its relationship with the previous section (10:32-39) and the following section (ch. 12).
2. Who is the human character(s) this section is about?
3. What scenario is v. 8 describing? Read Gen 12:1-4.
4. How does v. 8 describe how Abraham responded to the call of the Lord?
5. What is the relationship between faith and obedience described in v. 8? (Not all of Scripture... just look at v. 8)
6. How does v. 8 describe Abraham's obedience?
7. What is the physical place Abraham was going to in v. 8?

❖ Day 2

Read Hebrews 11:8-12 again.

8. How did Abraham live by faith according to v. 9?

Summit Woods Baptist Church  
Sermon Study Equipping Class

9. How are Isaac and Jacob described in v. 9? Why do you think the author of Hebrews describes them this way here?
10. Why did Abraham live as an alien according to v. 10?
11. Describe the relationship between the concrete physical land of Canaan (vv. 8-9) and the city described in v. 10.
12. Is “received” in v. 11 active or passive? Why is this significant?
13. From whom did Sarah “receive ability to conceive”?
14. How did Sarah receive this ability?
15. What is the reason she received this ability stated at the end of v. 11? What is a one-word description of the last line in v. 11?

Summit Woods Baptist Church  
Sermon Study Equipping Class

❖ Day 3

Read Hebrews 11:8-12 again.

16. What is the conclusion reached in v. 12 because of Sarah's faith?

17. Is the verb "was born" present or past tense? Why is this significant?

18. Summarize this passage in one sentence.

19. How does this account in Hebrews of the early stages of the Abraham/Sarah narrative mesh with the account of these same days recorded in Genesis 12-21? What does this tell us about the nature of walking by faith?

20. How does this passage shape your understanding of what it means to walk by faith in order to gain God's approval?

Summit Woods Baptist Church  
**Sermon Study Equipping Class**

21. How does the example of Abraham and Sarah encourage you to persevere by faith in the promises of God?

22. How should this passage shape your life this week?

In preparation for Sunday, pray that we would walk by faith, believing the promises of God despite our circumstances.