

# Without Faith

Hope Chapel Tokorozawa

Hebrews 11:1-6

“And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.” (Hebrews 11:6, ESV)

## Introduction

Just recently I was reminded of something that happened over thirty years ago before I came to follow Christ: way back in 1976 I had to play the role of a missionary in high school musical drama. It was very ironic then—*I was definitely not a follower of Christ, having broken all ten commandments by the age of 16*—and even more ironic now after nearly 17 years as a missionary in Asia. God called me and laid a sovereign foundation in my life before I knew Him. When did God call you, what did He reveal and how have you responded?

### 1. Faith is our assurance, conviction and commendation. (Hebrews 11:1-2)

a) “...the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

b) Faith is necessary at least until the return of Jesus Christ (1Co 13:7-13)

### 2. Faith helps us understand our world and to please God. (Hebrews 11:3-5)

a) Human reason is useful within the realm of human experience (Kant).

b) Without faith we cannot understand reality beyond what we can experience.

### 3. And without faith we cannot approach or please God. (Hebrews 11:6)

a) Without faith we cannot please God.

b) God rewards those who believe He exists and seek Him.

## Conclusion

In another place in the Scriptures we learn that “*faith comes by hearing and hearing through the word of Christ*” (Romans 10:17, ESV). What has God said to you? Did you believe Him when He spoke to you? How will you respond to the word of God to you?

## For prayer, study, discussion and application:

- 1) Read 1 Corinthians 13:7-13. Why might we not need faith after Christ returns for us?
- 2) Read and talk about Hebrews 11:1-5. What’s significant about Abel and Enoch’s faith?
- 3) Read Hebrews 11:6. Talk with someone about God’s existence and reward this week.

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