

Weekly Prayer Letter

Week of 29 November 2020

Faith Is The Key To Pleasing God

“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

Hebrews 11 is often called the “Hall of Faith.” In it, we read of all the great heroes of faith recorded in the Scriptures whom God commended for believing what they could not yet see. Here we learn that faith is the key to pleasing God. Biblical faith is “a confident trust in the eternal God who is all-powerful, infinitely wise and eternally trustworthy – the God who has revealed himself in his Word and in the person of Jesus Christ, whose promises have proven true from generation to generation.”¹

First, we need faith to come to God to believe he exists and then trust him for our salvation. Then, we need the continued enduring faith that causes us to seek him daily to have a vibrant and rewarding walk with Him.

The Christian life, however, is not an easy journey. We are plagued with our own sinfulness and the endless temptations of the world around us. How can we obey God? How can we have victories instead of defeats? Where do we get this faith so necessary to spiritual strength? The Bible tells us faith is a gift from God (Eph 2:8). Through his compassionate grace, God gives us the faith to follow him.

One of the most encouraging truths in the Bible is that its heroes were far from perfect. Scripture does not hide their weaknesses. We can read about their failures and relate to them. The highs and lows of their lives remind us they were human, just like us. We can take heart in knowing that God loves us in spite of our weaknesses.

The writer of the book of Hebrews shows that throughout history faith has been the key to the accomplishments and successes of all the Bible's heroes. We can imitate their faith and good qualities. We can join the ranks of the “Hall of Faith” simply by receiving and following through the faith God gives us and change the world.

What areas of your life do you need to start doing in faith? Remember, faith is the key to pleasing God and living a life that counts for Him.

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(Parish Leader, Small Groups, Prayer)

¹ The English Standard Version Study Bible (Wheaton, Illinois: Crossway Bibles, 2008) – under Hebrews 11:1 notes, page 2379.

Prayer Pointers

1. Praise God for the 20 adults and 13 children who were baptised, as well as, all who were received into the membership of Faith on 21 Nov. Pray that they will experience a deep assurance of God's love for them; for a growing hunger to know Him better and intimately, to have a persistent passion for God, to grow and mature as disciples of Christ. Pray for the children to be boys and girls after the Lord's heart.
2. Pray that the Lord will release His creativeness to all the Small Groups as they prepare themselves to participate in the "12 Days To Christmas" outreach initiative to reach one more soul for Christ as part of Faith's "One Mission" direction.
3. Pray that the Lord will put a stop to the resurgence of the Covid-19 cases in Japan, South Korea, Indonesia and Malaysia and grant wisdom to the relevant authorities to handle this sudden spike of cases well.
4. Pray that the Lord will grant tenacity to the governments of the European nations to put in place proper safety measures to contain the spread of the virus and that the citizens will be co-operative to abide by the rules to diminish the spread of the virus.
5. Pray that the vaccine announced by the Pfizer and BioNTech pharmaceutical companies, where inoculation have been carried on people and the success rate is encouraging, will be validated as safe for consumption and that the production of the vaccine can be accelerated and make available quickly.

We Are Here For You!

- Perhaps you are going through a challenging time, and you need someone to pray with you, our pastoral team is here and ready to journey with you.
- Even though we may not be able to be with you in person, we can still reach you via telephone and other means.
- You may submit any Prayer Requests online via our church website at <https://www.faimc.sg/care-help/prayer-requests/>.