

HUB NOTES

Without This, Missions Is Impossible Hebrews 11:1-7 WorldReach Sermon

WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE SAID?

*Be honest on this one. Before our time together in Hebrews on Sunday, how would you have answered the question: What word would you choose to replace the pronoun **this** in the following sentence? “Without **this**, missions is impossible.”*

However, if we were to ask the writer of Hebrews to answer that question, there’s no doubt that he would use the word that is central to his epistle, a word that identifies the only way to please God (and obeying the Great Commission surely pleases God), the word that Jesus Himself says is central to our relationship with Him. What is that word?

Why do you feel we seem to forget that the only way to please God is trusting Him? Why is it that we so quickly come to some other word that involves our performance or control, even when it comes to the Great Commission?

ONLY OUR FAITH PLEASES GOD!

Read Hebrews 11:1-7. What stands out to you as you read this key New Testament on how to truly please God?

Here are the bullet points Ed presented on our personal faith and what enduring faith demands from us. Which of these is easiest for you? Why?

- A. Enduring faith believes what God said more than what people say.
- B. Enduring faith believes what God has said more than circumstances.
- C. Enduring faith is looking forward to all that God has promised rather than back at all that we feel God may not have done.
- D. Enduring faith draws near to our Good God even when life feels “not” good.
- E. If you want the impact of your life to outlast your years on earth, live by faith.
- F. Be remembered for your faith, not your performance, your money, your mind, your skills, your beauty, your career, your advice, your ...

Which of these is most difficult for you? Why?

THE CONNECTION BETWEEN FAITH AND MISSIONS

Here are the bullet points Ed presented on our missional faith and what the faith to be a sending church demands from us as individuals and as a congregation. Which of these is easiest for most churches? Why?

If you want to live the missional life in a missional church, then you must live by faith. You must draw near to God with enduring faith.

- A. Enduring faith prays for missionaries and people groups, even when it seems useless.
- B. Enduring faith goes to another people group, even when it's hard.
- C. Enduring faith sends missionaries, even when it costs or doesn't make complete sense.
- D. Enduring faith draws near to our Good God, even when our mission endeavors fail.
- E. Enduring faith doesn't quit sending missionaries; it tries again in spite of the messiness of missions, problems with missionaries, or a discouraging failure.

Which of these, in your opinion is most difficult for a local church? Why?

Read the following quote from Ed's sermon on Sunday: When God looks back on history, He doesn't remember the mighty deeds of the heroes of the faith, He remembers the faith that explained those mighty deeds.

How does this quote inform your view of the great mission history of Church of the Open Door?