

BE THE BEST

A BETTER RACE



¹⁷ **By faith ABRAHAM**, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, ¹⁸ of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ¹⁹ He considered that **God was able even to raise him from the dead**, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back.

HEBREWS ל:17-35

²⁰ **By faith ISAAC** invoked future blessings on **Jacob** and **Esau**. ²¹ **By faith Jacob**, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. ²² **By faith Joseph**, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones.

HEBREWS לו:ל-לו-לו

²³ **By faith MOSES**, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. ²⁴ **By faith** Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the **fleeting pleasures** of sin.

HEBREWS ל:ו-ל:ז

²⁶ He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. ²⁷ **By faith** he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him **who is invisible**. ²⁸ **By faith** he kept the **Passover** and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

HEBREWS ל:17-35

²⁹ **By faith** the **people** crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. ³⁰ **By faith** the walls of **JERICHO** fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. ³¹ **By faith** **RAHAB THE PROSTITUTE** did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

HEBREWS ל:ל-ל:ל

³² And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of **GIDEON**, **BARAK**, **SAMSON**, **JEPHTHAH**, of **DAVID** and Samuel and the prophets — ³³ who through faith **conquered** kingdoms, **enforced justice**, **obtained promises**, **stopped** the mouths of **lions**, ³⁴ quenched the **power of fire**, escaped the **edge of the sword**...

HEBREWS ל:ל-ל

were made **strong** out of **weakness**, became **mighty** **in war**, put **foreign armies to flight**. Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might **rise again to a better life**.

HEBREWS ל'ו:ו-ל'ו:כ

“Faith is a living, daring confidence in God’s grace, so sure and certain that the believer would stake his life on it a thousand times ... Faith is a living, busy, active, mighty thing.”

1. What does
our faith history
look like?

1. What does our faith history look like?

— Faith doesn't fear or fawn.

²⁷ **By faith** he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him **who is invisible**.

HEBREWS ל:21

²⁴ **By faith** Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the **fleeting pleasures** of sin.

HEBREWS 11:24-25

1. What does our faith history look like?

- Faith doesn't fear or fawn.
- Faith is not measured by our failures.

1. What does our faith history look like?

- Faith doesn't fear or fawn.
- Faith is not measured by our failures.
- Faith can seem foolish.

²⁸ **By faith** he kept the **Passover** and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

HEBREWS 11:28

1. What does our faith history look like?

- Faith doesn't fear or fawn.
- Faith is not measured by our failures.
- Faith can seem foolish.
- Faith does not insulate us from suffering.

Some were **tortured**, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. ³⁶ Others suffered **MOCKING** and **FLOGGING**, and even **CHAINS** and **IMPRISONMENT**. ³⁷ They were **STONED**, they were **SAWN IN TWO**, they were **KILLED WITH THE SWORD**. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, **DESTITUTE, AFFLICTED, MISTREATED**— ³⁸ of whom the world was not worthy—wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

HEBREWS 11:35^B-38

1. What does our faith history look like?

- Faith doesn't fear or fawn.
- Faith is not measured by our failures.
- Faith can seem foolish.
- Faith does not insulate us from suffering.
- Faith can grow.

How do we **exercise**
and **grow** our faith?

2. Drop, cut, run.

¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a **cloud of witnesses**, let us also **LAY ASIDE** [THROW OFF, DROP, STRIP OFF] **EVERY WEIGHT**, and **SIN WHICH CLINGS SO CLOSELY** [TRIPS, ENSNARES, ENTANGLES], and let us **RUN WITH ENDURANCE** the **RACE** that is set before us...

HEBREWS 12:1-2

² **LOOKING TO JESUS**, the **FOUNDER** [AUTHOR, PIONEER, CHAMPION] and **PERFECTER** [FINISHER] of our faith, who for the **JOY THAT WAS SET BEFORE HIM** endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the **right hand of the throne of God**.

HEBREWS 12:1-2

2. Drop, cut, run.

— Drop the weight.

2. Drop, cut, run.

- Drop the weight.
- Cut the sin.

2. Drop, cut, run.

- Drop the weight.
- Cut the sin.
- Run with endurance.

Fight the **GOOD FIGHT** of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

תִּימּוֹתַי 6:12