



Dig Deeper Study Guide

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church - November 11, 2012

Sermon

All Saints Day & Veteran's

Day:

*"Remembering our
Saints and Veterans"*

Hebrews 11:1-6

by Bob Shank

Things I want to remember
about this sermon...

Monday 11/12/12

Hebrews 11:1

This is one of the very best definitions of faith: "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Faith is one of those intangible components of our religion. We talk about faith, rely on our faith, and study to grow in our faith; and yet, faith is not well defined or understood by many Christians. Commit this verse to memory and remember this definition of faith. It is one of the very best!

Tuesday 11/13/12

Hebrews 11:2

It was by the faith of our forefathers and foremothers that God approved them. This whole chapter will list a great number of faithful people. We read their stories in the Bible and now they are listed here in the book of Hebrews as great people of faith. They had God's approval because they practiced their faith and they remained faithful! Are you practicing your faith today? Are you growing in your faith?

Wednesday 11/14/12

Hebrews 11:3

You've probably heard the word "mystery" when it comes to understanding God's ways. God's ways can certainly seem mysterious to us and often we simply do not understand the ways of God. The writer of Hebrews acknowledges this in verse three. God's word is one of the constants we have to rely on. However, there is a reality in life that is beyond what just seems to be before us. I like to say that there is a reality beyond what we can see and touch in this world. God's ways are definitely different than our ways. Faith is required to trust that God's ways exist. Do you believe in God? Do you believe in God's ways?



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Things to do this week in response to the sermon...

Describe what faith is in your own words.

Find ways to practice your faith this week.

Explain how you know that God exists.

Thursday 11/15/12
Hebrews 11:4

This verse begins the list of faithful people that appear in the biblical narrative. The list starts with Abel, one of the sons of Adam and Eve. It was by faith that Abel made an offering to God. Interestingly, this is the first time we hear that Abel's offering was more acceptable to God than Cain's. This writer believed that Abel's offering was accepted by God and that Abel was counted as righteous because of it. Also note, that Abel's voice still comes to us even though he is dead! Saints are not just remembered, their lives speak beyond their own time!

Friday 11/16/12
Hebrews 11:5

Do you remember the story of Enoch? Enoch was the eldest son of Cain and the very first city mentioned in scripture bears his name! You can read this story in Genesis 4:17. Enoch also had the unique experience of not having to die to be with God in heaven. You can read this story in Genesis 5:21-24. Enoch simply walked with God right into heaven! My guess is that people remembered this story right after Enoch's life and for a long, long time--we are remembering it even today!

Saturday 11/17/12
Hebrews 11:6

Faith is a requirement. We cannot see God, yet we know God exists. It is a necessary requirement to believe God exists. Do you believe God exists? Faith is required to believe. This verse also indicates a blessing results by God rewarding those who make a serious search of God's existence! Jesus said, "Ask and you shall receive." It is by faith that we come to believe. What do you believe? Are you convinced that God exists? How do you know?