

Greatest Hope

Greater Than | Week 5

Hayden | September 3rd & September 6th 2026 | Josh Austin



Our Roadmap (Hebrews 11-13)

- Remember God's faithfulness.
- Remove what weighs you down.
- Run with endurance.
- Refocus on Jesus.
- Recommit to faithful living.

Hebrews 11:1-2 (ESV)

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation.

Three different types of faith:

- Saving faith – We believe (Eph 2)
- Gift of faith (1 Cor 12) – faith is one of 9 spiritual gifts listed here.
- Living by faith – this is the kind of faith that all of us are called to exercise.

Faith involves “seeing” what is unseen (see verse 1, 3, 7, 10, 13, 14, 23, 26, 27)

2 Corinthians 4:18 (ESV)

as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.

Faith is an action

- Abel trusted God.
- Enoch walked with God.
- Noah obeyed before he saw rain.
- Abraham went without knowing where he was going.
- Sarah trusted God's promise.
- Moses chose God's people over Egypt.
- Israel walked through the sea.

Faith isn't trusting God to give me the outcome I want. Faith is trusting God regardless of the outcome.

Hebrews 12:1-3 (ESV)

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter 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. Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

CLOUD (*nephos*)

- Used 1x in N.T.
- Language often used in classical literature for large crowds or hosts of people.
- Used to describe an “amphitheater full of watchers/observers.”

WITNESSES (*martureo*)

- Who are they?
- Witness of what?

Three Commands:

1. **RUN THE RACE** (12:1)
2. **CONSIDER HIM** (12:3)
3. **DO NOT GROW WEARY** (12:3)

RACE (*agona*)

- This is not a sprint. It’s a marathon.
- Notice the language of: perseverance, endurance, not growing weary, not losing heart.
- This is where we get our word—Agony

Hebrews 12:28–29 (ESV)

Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, for our God is a consuming fire.

The Point of Chapter 12:

- Look BACK at the witnesses.
- Look DOWN at what needs to be laid aside.
- Look AHEAD at the race God has given you.
- But above everything else—LOOK TO JESUS.

What running faithfully looks like:

- loving your brothers and sisters — **13:1**
- showing hospitality — **13:2**
- remembering those who suffer — **13:3**
- honoring your marriage — **13:4**
- refusing to be controlled by money — **13:5**
- practicing contentment — **13:5**
- following godly examples — **13:7**
- continually worshiping Jesus — **13:15**
- doing good and sharing generously — **13:16**

Faith is trusting God to faithfully fulfill his future promise because you have good reason to do so.

Hebrews 13:8 (ESV)

Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Hebrews 13:20–21 (ESV)

Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

