

YEAR OF GROWTH

FAITH WEEK 2

EXAMPLES

Old Testament:

There are many examples of men and women of faith in the Old Testament. We will focus on several who help us to understand the nature and action of faith.

Day One – Sunday

Reflect on the definitions of the words that God used to describe faith. Think back over the previous lessons. Read again the passages that you have written. Recall the verses you have memorized. Focus on the meaning of faith and prepare to explore Bible examples of faith.

Day Two – Monday

Genesis 4:1-8; Matthew 23:35; Hebrews 11:4; 12:24

Abel stands out as the first example of true faith. By faith, he offered to God a pleasing sacrifice. This means that he heard and obeyed the Word of God (cf. Romans 10:17). Because of this, Abel was a righteous man – he did what was right and was justified of God. As a result, his righteous blood cried out for vengeance – a righteous reckoning of justice by the Lord. As powerful as this was, the blood of Jesus cries out better things – mercy and forgiveness.

Day Three – Tuesday

Genesis 5:21-24; Hebrews 11:5; Jude 14-15

Enoch is an example of faith because he walked with God. Like Abel, he heard the Word of the Lord and obeyed it. In fact, he taught God's Word to others for he was a prophet (Jude 14). Following the will of God was a way of life for Enoch. As a result, he pleased God. Therefore, God translated Enoch directly from this world to the spiritual realm – without his undergoing death.

Day Four – Wednesday

Genesis 6:13-22; Hebrews 11:7; 2 Peter 2:5

Noah is an example of faith because of his great trust in God and His plan. God told Noah of the destruction of the entire world by a flood – something that seemed nearly impossible. He instructed Noah to build an ark as the only means of surviving this cataclysm. In all of these things, Noah trusted God and obeyed His Word exactly. Furthermore, while doing all this, he also

preached to others in an attempt to save them (cf. 1 Peter 3:18-21). Thus, Noah was a righteous man who also pleased God.

Day Five – Thursday

Genesis 22:1-14; Romans 4; Hebrews 11:8-19

The life of Abraham may be the best example of faith found in the Old Testament. From Genesis 12 – 22, we are able to watch the growth of Abraham from a man of faith mixed with fear to a man of great faith. He became so confident in God and His Word that he was willing to offer Isaac, the son of promise, as a sacrifice – knowing that God could and would raise him from the dead. Abraham had learned this kind of faith by trusting and obeying God through the tests and trial of life. Thus, “he believed in the Lord; and He counted it to him for righteousness” (Genesis 15:6).

Day Six – Friday

Daniel 6:10-24

Daniel is an example of faith because he trusted in God and obeyed Him under the threat of persecution and death. Daniel’s enemies conspired against him and had a law passed that they knew Daniel would violate. If a person prayed to anyone other than the king, he would be thrown into a den of lions. Knowing this law in effect, Daniel prayed to God openly and courageously. As a result, God protected Daniel and he was not harmed by the lions.

Day Seven – Saturday

Malachi 3:16-17

The Old Testament ends with the assurance that God knows those who fear Him – those who live by faith. This fact remains true today. Let us learn from these great examples of old and imitate their great faith in the Lord.