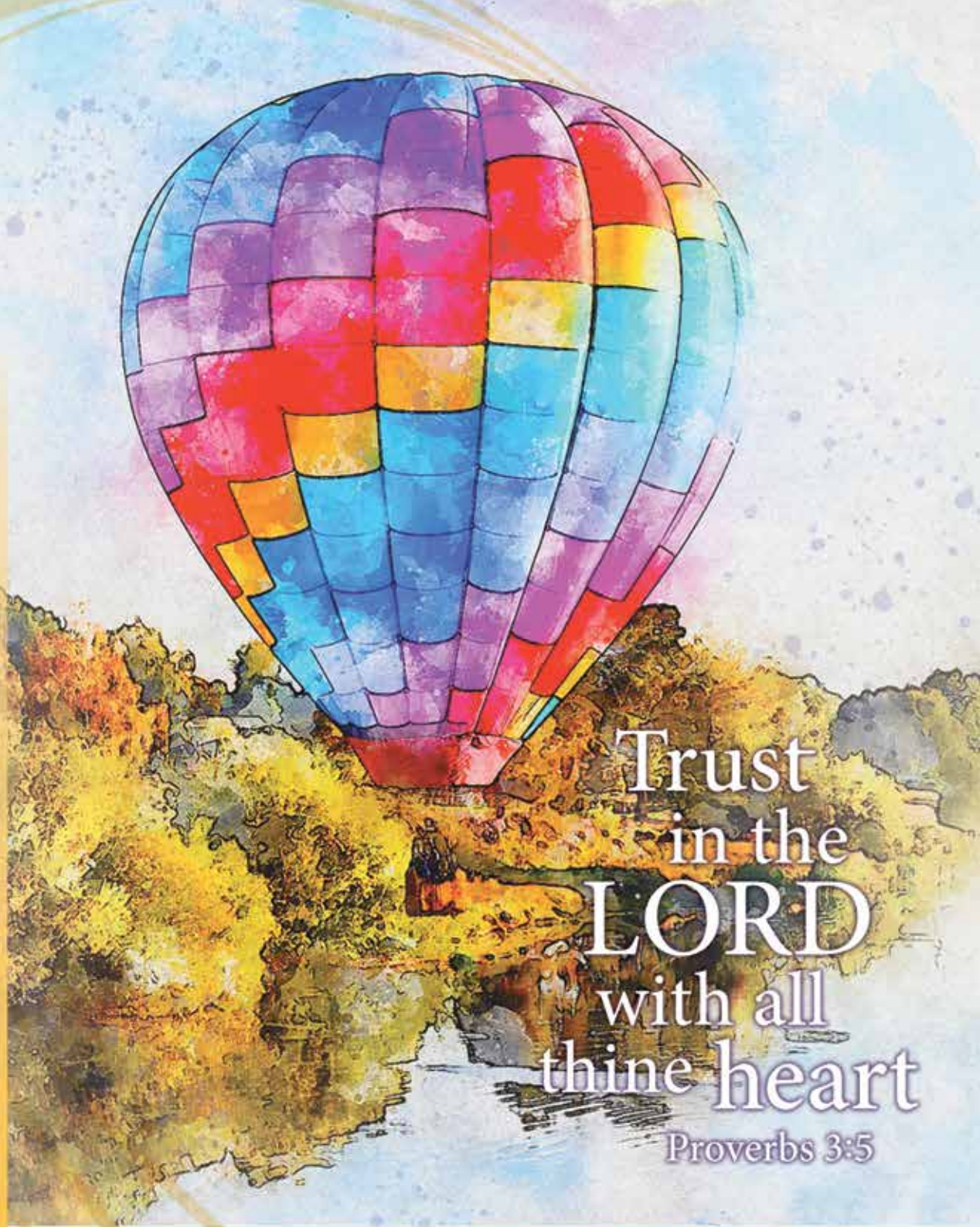


# HOME STUDY



Trust  
in the  
**LORD**  
with all  
thine heart  
Proverbs 3:5

Summer Quarter  
June | July | August 2025

*Large-Print Edition*

# Home Study

Large-Print Edition

SUMMER QUARTER

June, July, August 2025

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# SCRIPTURE LESSON TEXT

**HEB. 11:1** Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

**2 For by it the elders obtained a good report.**

4 By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.

**5 By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.**

6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

**7 By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.**

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.

**9 By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as *in* a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:**

10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God.

**11 Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised.**

12 Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so *many* as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

**13 These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of *them*, and embraced *them*, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.**

## NOTES



# Learn from Good Examples

Lesson Text: Hebrews 11:1-2, 4-13

Related Scriptures: Genesis 4:3-7; 5:21-24; 6:9-22; 12:1-5; 17:15-22

TIME: about A.D. 67

PLACE: unknown

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**GOLDEN TEXT**—“Without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him” (Hebrews 11:6).

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## *Lesson Exposition*

Some people try to live in obedience to God with very little faith. They try to do the right thing because they heard it is the right thing. They struggle on, just trying to live moral lives.

This is not the life to which God calls His children. God wants children who have a simple trust and belief in Him. There is great power available through trust. Those who trust God in unwavering faith will do many great things not merely because it is right or to earn a blessing but out of love and faith in the One who promises eternal blessing.

### **THE DEFINITION OF FAITH— Heb. 11:1-2**

There are many things that people believe in. We trust that a chair will hold us. Most of us trust in the love of our family and friends. We believe that they will keep loving us no matter what. We need their love and depend upon it, especially when something difficult occurs in our life.

We have a sense of certainty regard-

ing the love of our family and friends even though we cannot see it. Verse 1 calls faith the “substance of things hoped for.” Faith is a certainty that is as real as the things we can touch.

With God we need even more faith, since we cannot even see Him. The men and women of biblical history had a long record of faith. They did not receive approval or earn a reward because they worked for God. No, their approval was for trusting in God and never giving up on that trust.

### **THE EXAMPLES OF FAITH— Heb. 11:4-13**

**Abel’s faith (Heb. 11:4).** We do not know how Abel knew the right kind of sacrifice to offer God. Some speculate that when God made coats of skin for Adam and Eve, the need to sacrifice animals was implied. Whatever the case, Abel knew that the One who had walked in the Garden of Eden with his parents deserved gifts of love.

Abel took some of the animals from

his beloved flock and sacrificed them to God. As far as we know, God no longer appeared to people as He had when Adam and Eve lived in the garden. Abel's offerings were probably based on the testimony of his parents. Whatever the case, he offered the sacrifice by faith. Abel believed and offered animals to God before there was a temple. The offering of blood sacrifices is no longer needed, for Christ offered His blood as a sacrifice for sin—once for all (Heb. 7:27; 10:10, 12).

**Enoch's faith (Heb. 11:5).** Enoch was a popular character in the Jews' religious writings around the first century. Intrigued by the brief mention of Enoch in Genesis, Jewish writers speculated about him and wrote prophecies that they claimed came from him.

Enoch captured the popular imagination of the Jews because of the unusual, though brief, description of his life. Genesis 5:24 states, "Enoch walked with God: and he was not; for God took him."

Enoch is unique in that he was taken into heaven without dying first. Enoch was said to have walked with God. In the garden, God had literally walked with Adam and Eve. Perhaps Enoch's faith was so great that God walked with him in the same way as He had with Adam and Eve. Enoch had clearly pleased God greatly to be honored in such a unique way as to be transported directly into heaven.

**Necessity of faith (Heb. 11:6).** Clearly it was Enoch's faith that pleased God. An important principle is revealed in verse 6: it is impossible to please God without faith. Deeds done out of duty do not please God apart from faith. Righteous acts done purely in the pursuit of virtue do not please God. On the contrary, God is pleased by trust, simple childlike faith in His goodness.

Those who have faith in God believe not only that He exists but also that He rewards righteousness. Faith is not merely a faint hope for reward; it is the certainty of reward from the hand of God because we know He is good.

Those with faith know that God rewards diligent service and diligent prayer in seeking Him. Those with greater faith will be all the more diligent in doing good deeds and in seeking God in prayer. Faith is the motivation behind righteousness.

**Noah's faith (Heb. 11:7).** No one could imagine a flood destroying the world. No one had heard of such a thing in Noah's time. Those who lived around Noah and heard his preaching did not believe his warnings. They lacked faith.

In the midst of that faithless generation was Noah. He not only believed God existed; he also believed God's Word about the coming flood. He trusted God's instructions and carried them out. His faith resulted in righteous deeds that saved him from judgment. He is a perfect picture of faith.

In the same way, no one apart from faith in God's promises believes in the coming judgment of fire on the earth. To the unbelieving it seems that the world will always continue the way it is; yet, like Noah, we believe God's Word and follow His instructions. Our faith in a sense condemns the world that does not believe, for only those who have faith will be able to withstand God's judgment.

**Abraham's faith (Heb. 11:8-10).** Abraham was called to leave his family and homeland. God told him to simply go to the land God would show him (Gen. 12:1). Abraham left and went as he was told. When he arrived in that land, God promised to give it all to his descendants as an inheritance.

Our lives are somewhat like Abraham's. We cannot physically see the promise of eternal life. We cannot hold the treasures of heaven in our hands. Sometimes we must make what seem to be sacrifices because of our faith. We may want some treasure on earth, but honesty, love, and the service of God may prevent us from obtaining it. Faith is believing that God has treasure for us that we cannot see even when it means losing treasure we can see.

Abraham lived out his life as a stranger in the land. The land was not his. He had to move around seasonally with his flocks. He knew, however, that he had a place with God that would be greater than the tents he lived in on earth.

**Sarah's faith (Heb. 11:11-12).** Sarah, the wife of Abraham, also needed faith. Her great test of faith was barrenness. She may have struggled with feelings of worthlessness, even though Abraham loved her. Sarah had no children, but God kept saying she would. At first, she laughed at God's promise (Gen. 18:12).

Though Abraham and Sarah, using Hagar, tried their own way to have an heir, they kept believing when God promised that they would have an heir together. In Sarah's old age, when fertility was impossible humanly speaking, God fulfilled the promise. The promise came from the hand of God in a way that communicated that only God could do it. God wanted great faith from Abraham and Sarah, who would be models of faith to those who read about their experiences.

**Faith's hope (Heb. 11:13).** All of the examples that are listed, from Abel to Abraham, from Enoch to Sarah, died without seeing the ultimate fulfillment of God's promises. None of them lived to see the days when God became a man and solved the sin problem for the world. None of

them got to know how great would be the culmination of the promises that are all too easy for us to take for granted.

Yet they all believed God right to the end. So must we as we sojourn upon this earth. We may not see all of God's promises fulfilled before we die, but we must fix our eyes on Jesus. After all, He is the Author of our faith as well as its Perfecter. Like the Old Testament saints, our promise of eternal life will be fully realized only when we stand before God Himself. Faith is believing in realities we cannot see. Faith is never giving up. Faith is simply trusting God's Word no matter what the world says. We have many good examples to follow.

—Derek Leman

## PRACTICAL POINTS

1. By trusting in God and not doubting His word, we also will receive a good report (Heb. 11:1-2).
2. Faith helps us understand God's creative work (vs. 3).
3. We should not think that we can please God when we doubt Him (vss. 4-6).
4. If God has said something, we must believe it even though it may be invisible and unprovable (vss. 7-9).
5. We are looking by faith with spiritual eyes for the place that God has made for us to dwell in eternally (vs. 10).
6. God often works in ways that require us to have great faith to believe (vss. 11-12).
7. We must keep trusting God all the way to death (vs. 13).

—Derek Leman

# FOR DAILY MEDITATION

## MONDAY, May 26. Gen 5:21-24.

**Enoch walks with God.** In the midst of a long line of “So-and-so lived X years and begot so-and-so. He lived Y years after and died” we find Enoch, who is described quite differently. He walked with God—what a gloriously intimate way to describe one’s life! Like Adam and Eve who walked and talked with God daily in Eden, Enoch lived in God’s presence. Enoch was the only person other than Elijah whom God spared from death, and instead took directly into His presence.

## TUESDAY, May 27. Gen 6:9-22.

**Noah finds favor.** Noah walked with God, and when he received God’s warning of impending apocalyptic judgment and clear instructions to build a massive ark (which would have made him look like a lunatic if God’s warnings did not come true) Noah obeyed, and thus saved his family. Building the ark would have taken a long time, and given him many opportunities to quit, but he did not. When God calls us to do things that look foolish, we can trust Him.

## WEDNESDAY, May 28. Gen 12:1-5.

**Abram is called by God.** God called Abram to leave the comfort and security of his home and embark on a journey to an unknown land, promising to bless him. Despite the uncertainty, Abram trusted God and followed Him. Sometimes, God calls us to step out in faith, leaving our comfort and what we know to obey Him. Let’s embrace God’s leading, knowing that He is faithful to keep His promises.

## THURSDAY, May 29. Gen 15:1-6.

**Abram’s shield and reward.** God reassured Abram of His promises, telling him not to fear. Despite doubts and uncertainties, Abram believed the

Lord, and it was credited to him as righteousness. When we face moments of uncertainty, God invites us to hold on to Him in faith and to trust His unfailing promises. Just as Abram’s faith was counted as righteousness, we too are saved through faith in God, not our own works.

## FRIDAY, May 30. Gen 17:15-22.

**Sarah—mother of nations.** God promised Abraham and Sarah a son in their old age. Abraham offered God an alternative solution, and Sarah laughed in disbelief, but God assured them both that nothing is impossible for Him. Despite their doubts, God’s promise came true. God’s plans unfold in His perfect timing, regardless of our circumstances. He is faithful to fulfill His promises, even when they seem impossible.

## SATURDAY, May 31. 2 Cor. 4:16-5:7

**Things not seen are eternal.** Although we experience afflictions and pain in this life, God promises that our earthly trials are preparing heaven’s joys for us. We are more thankful for our friends and family after they recover from a long hospital visit, and we will be more appreciative of the joys of heaven after our earthly trials come to an end.

## SUNDAY, June 1. Heb. 11:1-2, 4-13.

**Embrace the promises.** Faith is assurance and conviction of things that are not seen. Who hopes for what he sees (cf. Rom. 8:24)? Faith involves trusting God when we cannot understand what He is doing. This sounds nice in theory, but it is often hard in practice. We like certainty! Thankfully, God’s promises *are* certain, although they involve trusting Him with the unknown. God has always been faithful to keep His promises in the past, and we can be confident that He will be faithful and keep His promises to us.

—Tom Greene