



Trust  
in the  
**LORD**  
with all  
thine heart

Proverbs 3:5

# *SENIOR HIGH BIBLE CLASS*

FOR TEENS AGES 15-17

*SUMMER QUARTER | JUNE | JULY | AUGUST 2025*

# Senior High Bible Class

## SUMMER QUARTER

### Christlike Living

#### UNIT I: Biblical Thinking

June	1—Learn from Good Examples.....	2
June	8—Learn from Bad Examples .....	6
June	15—Seek Godly Wisdom.....	10
June	22—Hold Fast to the Gospel.....	14

#### UNIT II: Biblical Feeling

June	29—Affection for Those in Christ .....	18
July	6—Affection for Christ's Church.....	22
July	13—Affection for Things Above .....	25
July	20—Humility Before God .....	28

#### UNIT III: Biblical Doing

July	27—Be Doers of the Word .....	31
Aug.	3—Pray for Peace.....	34
Aug.	10—Live in Light of the Gospel.....	37
Aug.	17—Trust the Lord.....	40
Aug.	24—Be Vigilant .....	43
Aug.	31—Be Ready .....	46

## LOOKING AHEAD

This quarter we will study biblical thought, emotion, and action.

Lesson 1 offers good examples of those who model faith despite their failures. In lesson 2, we see examples of those who faltered in their faith as a warning. In lesson 3, Solomon emphasizes seeking wisdom. In lesson 4, Paul rebukes the Galatians for turning from grace to works.

John reminds us that we love because God first loved us in lesson 5. Paul encourages us in lesson 6 to follow Jesus' example and love one another. In lesson 7, Paul maintains that since we have been united to Christ, we should set our minds on things above. James calls us to humility in lesson 8.

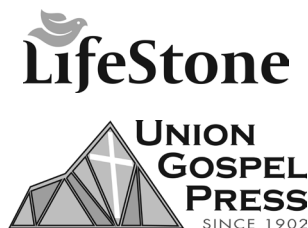
Lesson 9 reminds us that hearing God but not obeying Him does us no good. Lessons 10 and 11 encourage us to pray for all people and reflect the gospel to others. Lesson 12 urges us to trust in the Lord with all our hearts. Lessons 13 and 14 warn us to be watchful, living in the light of Christ's return.

—Tom Greene

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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

**PLEASE NOTE:** Fundamental, sound doctrine is the objective of The Incorporated Trustees of the Gospel Worker Society, Union Gospel Press. The writers are prayerfully selected for their Bible knowledge and willingness to submit to the Spirit of Truth, each writing in his own style as enlightened by the Holy Spirit. At best we know in part only. "They received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so" (Acts 17:11).

# 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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## ANALYZING

Who are your heroes? Who are the people you look up to and admire?

Hebrews 11 is the Bible’s “hall of faith.” These men and women were heroes. They had doubts and fears like we do, but they overcame them and did what they knew to be right in spite of their faults and failures. As you read about Old Testament heroes of the faith, you can be encouraged to be faithful in the crises you face every day.

**1. What faith is (Heb. 11:1-2).** Faith is the conviction, or “evidence,” that the unseen things of this world actually exist. You do not need faith to see what is visible. You need faith to believe what cannot be seen.

You must have faith to believe what the Bible says. For example, you were not present at the Creation, so you have no way of proving the Bible’s account of what happened at the beginning. When the Bible says God created the visible universe out of nothing, you must believe that on faith.

Genuine faith motivates us to act. As James said, “Faith without works is dead” (Jas. 2:20). The deeds of Israel’s heroes of faith show us that. Because of their faith-inspired actions, they received God’s “well done” (Matt. 25:21).

You use faith in every aspect of your relationship with God. Since you cannot see God, you must have faith to believe He exists. Whenever you call out to God and talk to Him in prayer, you are expressing your faith that He really is there and that He answers prayer.

**2. What the faithful do (Heb. 11:4-12).** Why did God accept Abel’s sacrifice but reject Cain’s? Some people believe it had to do with the nature of Cain’s sacrifice. Cain offered the fruit of the ground, while Abel offered a blood sacrifice—an animal. Since he was a farmer, Cain gave God what he had grown with his own hands. As a shepherd, Abel gave what he had raised—a sheep. Whether the issue of blood sacrifice is a factor or not, the answer is likely deeper than mere external appearances. Cain apparently also had a

bad attitude. His sacrifice was probably more the fulfillment of an obligation than a joyful act of worship. If he had offered an animal sacrifice with a bad attitude, God likely would have rejected that too.

On the other hand, Abel's sacrifice was an expression of his faith in God. Abel's sacrifice was acceptable because it was offered with the right attitude and for the right reasons.

Enoch is a man of mystery. He walked with God and was taken to heaven without dying (Gen. 5:24). His enduring legacy is that he "pleased God" (Heb. 11:5). No one could desire a grander epitaph: "He pleased God."

The writer of Hebrews repeats the theme of faith at this point by saying that it is impossible to please God without faith—implying that Enoch was a man of faith. God is pleased when we have faith, act on our faith, and express our faith.

The writer reduced faith to its basics: believing in God and believing He rewards those who seek Him. If we do not believe there is a God or we believe that He is apathetic toward us, we certainly will not seek Him or call out to Him. The very act of approaching God expresses our faith in Him.

Noah was a remarkable man of faith. God told him to build an ark in preparation for a great flood that would destroy all life on earth. In spite of what he may have thought, Noah did not challenge God. He acted in obedience.

Noah expressed his faith in God by taking Him at His word. He could have given a million excuses for not building the ark, but by faith he believed something that he had no way of proving. God honored and

rewarded Noah's faith by blessing his life.

Because of his faith, Noah was saved from the Flood—together with his entire household. This demonstrates a father's responsibility to be the spiritual leader of his family. A faithful father can sometimes lead his entire family to Christ (Acts 16:31-33).

If you say "man of faith," many people think of Abraham. At God's command he left what was familiar and stepped out into the unknown. He did not know where he was going or what he would do when he got there, but he knew God was leading. That was enough for him. That is real faith!

When we say that Abraham was a man of faith, we are not saying that he was perfect. He made mistakes, and there were times when he doubted what God had told him. He had some serious lapses of faith, such as the time he tried to fulfill God's promise of a son on his own (Gen. 16:1-4). When he stumbled, however, he got back up and kept going. He responded to God's discipline and mercy with obedience and faith (17:1-3). It took as much faith for Abraham to pick himself up and keep going as it did for him to step out in faith.

We want everything instantly. We are not used to waiting. Although Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob tended to be more patient than we are, even the faithful patriarchs became impatient with the pace of God's timetable from time to time.

It took much patience for the patriarchs to wait for God to work out His perfect will. Many people probably would have given up and lost the faith. But those who have

genuine faith wait for God to work things out in His own time and His own way.

Sarah was Abraham's wife. When God's call came to Abraham, Sarah was well past the age of child-bearing. Yet God is not limited by who or what we are. He will do amazing things through us if we have faith. As Jesus said, if we have faith the size of a tiny mustard seed, we can move the mountain (Matt. 17:20). Now that is doing the impossible!

### 3. How faith works (Heb. 11:13).

The patriarchs died without receiving the land God had promised them, but they still believed it was theirs. They took God at His word and believed His promises. Believing God, they could see His promises as though they had already been fulfilled.

When God called Abraham to leave his home and family, the father of Israel went in search of a new country. Having received a vision of what would be, he was no longer satisfied with what was.

Faith has a forward look. The patriarchs did not look back to what they had left behind. They looked ahead to what God had promised them.

Abraham and the other patriarchs sought much more than a new homeland on earth. They sought a heavenly homeland. By faith they were able to see the eternal home that God had prepared for them.

## DAILY BIBLE READINGS

M—Enoch Walks with God. Gen. 5:21-24.  
T—Noah Finds Favor. Gen. 6:9-22.  
W—Abram Is Called by God. Gen. 12:1-5.  
T—Abram's Shield and Reward. Gen. 15:1-6.  
F—Sarah—Mother of Nations. Gen. 17:15-22.  
S—Things Not Seen Are Eternal. II Cor. 4:16—5:7.  
S—Embrace the Promises. Heb. 11:1-2, 4-13.

## APPLYING

In a Mark Twain story, a small child described faith as follows: "Faith is believin' what you know ain't so." (Twain, *Following the Equator*, Hartford: American Publishing Company, 1897.) Regrettably, too many teens—and even adults—share that childish view of faith. Many believe it is simply a part of religious jargon—fine for church but out of place in the real world.

Actually, faith is very much a part of the real world. You use faith every day in everything you do. When you sit down in a chair, you have faith that it will support you. When you drive a car, you have faith that the brakes will stop the car when you step on the pedal. When you flip the light switch, you have faith that your room will be flooded with light.

## ASKING

1. According to the writer of Hebrews, what is faith?
2. In what ways do you use faith every day in nearly everything you do?
3. Why did God accept Abel's sacrifice but reject the sacrifice offered by Cain?
4. Why does Noah stand out as an exceptional man of faith? Why did Noah need so much faith?
5. What did God call Abraham to do? How did Abraham respond?
6. The patriarchs did not live to see the fulfillment of all God's promises. How do you think they felt about this?

—Richard A Lint