

Dwelling in the Word  
Yellowstone Presbytery  
Friday, November 4, 2022

“A Matter of Faith”

Hebrews 11:1-2 and 11:8-12

<sup>1</sup>Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. <sup>2</sup>This is what the ancients were commended for.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. <sup>12</sup>And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

Questions for Personal Reflection: (15 minutes)

1. What words or phrases rise to the top in this passage?
2. Dwell upon the words “confidence” and “assurance” in verse 1. What feelings do these words evoke?
3. Martin Luther said, “Faith is like taking the first step even when you don’t see the whole staircase.” When have you stepped out in faith without knowing where it will lead? A new relationship, job, move, or position in the church?
4. Like Abraham and Sarah, how might your faith surprise you?

Questions for Consideration in Small Groups: Please respect confidentiality (20 minutes)

1. Discuss the questions and your answers from the personal reflection time above?
2. How has your faith been affected the last two years by the pandemic?

Questions for the Large Group Discussion (20 minutes)

1. What insight did you gain in your small groups?