

Hebrews 11:1-3,8-16

Keep going in faith

Today's reading, part of a chapter on acts of faith by God's people, focuses on Abraham, who trusted God's call to leave his home and become a nomad. He and his wife Sarah had no child and no home for many years, but their commitment to God's promise was unwavering.

Read this week's passage:



WATCH

Watch *The Chronicles of Narnia: Voyage of the Dawn Treader* and notice how Reepicheep the mouse keeps going, always believing things will be better.

REFLECT

Take some time to look up at the clouds. What shapes can you see? The big clouds above us are made from water droplets which we can't see. Watch the clouds for a bit longer, taking the time to be thankful for the ways God is working in your life which you just haven't seen yet.



Play a game of snakes and ladders and think about life's ups and downs. What helps you to keep going in faith?

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Living Scripture

'All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them.' Hebrews 11:13

We live in an impatient society. Technology has made many things faster. We expect same-day delivery of purchases. We want ever-faster broadband, and immediate email replies. We loathe traffic jams, queues, and waiting rooms, and most of us distract ourselves from the discomfort of waiting by going on our phones.

Japanese theologian Kosuke Koyoma writes that we have a 3-mile an hour God. Three miles an hour is the speed that we can walk. God walks with us, not racing ahead at the speed of technology, but lovingly alongside us at the speed of our heart and emotions.

God's way is not instant gratification. In God's good time, all will be made well. Until then, we keep going in faith, alert to all that reassures us that God is on the way and with us in the waiting. Why does God expect this slow wait of faith? Perhaps it's to remind us that despite our efforts to control our world, we are not masters of the universe. God holds all things and requires us to keep trusting the promise that we shall be given the kingdom, and served in honour by its master, as those who have watched and waited and kept the faith.

What things make you impatient? The passage reflects heroes of the faith who waited and trusted God over a lifetime. What are you waiting for with God? Can you notice God walking beside you?

First impressions

- Think of a time when you felt like giving up – what helped you to keep going?
- What are you still trusting God for?
- How is your journey of faith going? Are you focused on the destination?



Pray

Dear Lord,
you know we love you and want to be faithful,
but sometimes we find it hard to keep going.
Please help us to keep on keeping on.
And please help others who are struggling
at this time.
May your kingdom come on earth as it
is in heaven.
Amen.



Read

Read the traditional tale of 'The Tortoise and the Hare' and notice who keeps going.