

A life of faith is made up of thousands, if not millions, of small moments & only a handful of “big” ones so if your faith is only sustained by the big moments, you will find yourself chasing an experience instead of chasing God.

### I. Abraham

- A. We remember Abraham’s life in a condensed version — the “big” moments.
  - 1. He left his Father’s household & sought God’s city.
  - 2. He rescued his nephew Lot.
  - 3. He became Isaac’s father in old age.
  - 4. He was willing to offer Isaac as a sacrifice.
- B. But, most of his life was not big moments! Instead, it was a journey.
  - 1. He was found faithful (even though he wasn’t perfect) because he didn’t quit
  - 2. True faith is much bigger than yourself or your circumstance.
    - a) Hebrews 11:13-16 “These heroes all died still clinging to their faith, not even receiving all that had been promised them. But they saw beyond the horizon the fulfillment of their promises and gladly embraced it from afar. They all lived their lives on earth as those who belonged to another realm. For clearly, those who live this way are longing for the appearing of a heavenly city. And if their hearts were still remembering what they left behind, they would have found an opportunity to go back. But they couldn’t turn back for their hearts were fixed on what was far greater, that is, the heavenly realm! So because of this God is not ashamed in any way to be called their God, for he has prepared a heavenly city for them.”

### II. This passage is inspiring. The Biblical accounts of our heroes of faith are exciting. Yet, the version of their lives that we read are condensed. It’s important that we realize two things:

- A. There are a lot more “small moments” in life than “big”.
- B. There are no real “small” moments at all.
  - 1. You won’t be up for the big moments if you haven’t lived the small ones well.
  - 2. Small moments that contain faith, hope, or love are eternal. Small moments create and change destiny. The way you love your family, the daily sacrifice of living a godly life, being kind to your neighbor, sharing with those in need, treating people like Jesus does = this is what happens in the daily life of Christians and none of this is small!
  - 3. Your daily life matters! The substance of your life & a life of faith truly is made up in the “grind” of life—those “normal” every day life moments. You become a hero by living those moments with faith. By cultivating hope. By choosing love. When you do this, you will not know the impact of your life until you see it from eternity & will be far more glorious than you could imagine.

### III. Faith Contains the following “ingredients”:

- A. Strength.
  - 1. Joshua 1:9 “Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”
    - a) strong = “to be or grow firm or strong, strengthen”
    - b) courageous = to be stout, strong, bold, alert, determined
    - c) do not tremble = cause terror, dread, fear or shock
    - d) do not be dismayed = to be shattered or dismayed, terrified, frighten, break
  - 2. It isn’t about being there already, it’s about making the choice to be strong. To be bold. To move past fear. To not allow circumstances to shatter you—who you are, what you believe.
- B. Faithfulness
  - 1. Matthew 21:21-22 “...if you have faith and do not doubt...”
    - a) faith = faithfulness

- b) doubt = to judge, discern, distinguish; also translated as waver, regard, to decide, judge, made distinctions, discern...
  - 2. Faith is about faithfulness. It is about not judging the circumstance or what the Lord is saying or commanding. Instead, being faithful to Him and His ways, having confidence in Him & His faithfulness!
- C. Trust.
- 1. John 6
  - 2. The crowd follows Jesus because of the signs he was performing (vs.1-2)
  - 3. Jesus wants them to follow Him—trusting Him with their lives!
- D. Joy.
- 1. This is proof of the rest of it. It shows the truth of your faith.
  - 2. There is joy in trusting the Lord because He is good and we know the outcome will be good!