

GRACEPOINT CHURCH

Weekly Devotional

The Uber-ised Church

Recalculating the Route – Linda Magengenene-Moyake – 25.10.2026

Scripture

Hebrews 11:8-16

Open your mind and heart as you read the passage of Scripture aloud and then again quietly to yourself. Listen for God's word to you.

Spend some time in worship.

Observation

The writer of Hebrews begins chapter 11 by defining faith and giving Old Testament examples of people who lived by faith, receiving promises from God but never actually seeing the promises fulfilled. It gave these people the courage to persevere, and to overcome the delays and challenges that life presented to them.

Hebrews 11:8-16

Abraham obeyed God by faith. He stepped out, going to the place God had promised him, even though his faith was not perfect. He stopped and made detours, only eventually obeying God completely and doing what God had instructed him. Yet, when Hebrews was written, it was Abraham's eventual obedience that was remembered rather than the delays. He lived as a traveller in the Promised Land in tents. He never owned any of it except for the two plots he and Sarah were buried in. The author of Hebrews used The Greek word *paroikos* to describe him. That is a resident alien, someone who lives in a place without permanent residency.

Sarah's faith was not perfect either. She laughed in disbelief when she heard about her future motherhood. But she did believe that God was faithful and able to keep His promises, so she received the strength to bear a child in her old age.

None of the people mentioned in the early section of chapter 11 (and those following the passage on Abraham and Sarah) saw the fruition of God's promises to them, but each of them died in their faith. Abraham and Sarah saw the fulfilment of their promises of the Messiah in faith alone, from a great distance. But because God had made the promises

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to them, they believed they would be fulfilled despite the difficulties and discouragements they faced.

Icebreaker:

What promise was made to you as a child or young adult that thrilled you?

Did the person making the promise carry it through?

How did you feel when it was fulfilled – or not fulfilled?

How has that promise impacted who you are today?

Application

- Have you ever been lost on a long journey or in a new town? Did you have a GPS or a map to help you? How did you re-discover your route again? How long was the delay in reaching your destination?
- *When the route changes, trust the Guide. Faith does not require a complete map; it requires confidence in the Guide:* How has the route changed in your life? What goal did you have that was changed over time? How do you feel about the end result? Is it an improvement to your original goal? How much did you trust God in the process?
- *When the journey feels like a detour let God form you. Faith does not always remove the detour. It trusts God to use the journey to form you:* What have you prayed for that took a long time to be answered? Can you see God's hand shaping you in the wait? How did you change/grow in that time to help you handle the answer to your prayers?
- *When the promise is unseen, surrender and keep moving. Faith releases the need to control, trusts God's promise and refuses to turn back:* How easy/difficult do you find it to surrender control to another person, or to God, especially when you don't clearly understand what the destination is? Are you tempted to grab back that control, or can you stand aside and let someone else lead? Why?
- How would you feel if you had worked towards a destination for a long time, but knew you would not live long enough to see it fulfilled? Would it affect your dedication to the journey? How would it affect your relationship with those coming along behind you – who may, in fact, see its fulfilment?

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- How can the group help you with the struggles you have mentioned during this session?

Prayer

Pray for one another regarding the issues raised during your discussion time and any other needs of the group.

Service

This week, look at your life and identify where God has made a way for you to move forward. When you detect any change in route, trust God and yield to His way. Tell Him you are doing this and then wait for His response.

Bibliography

<https://enduringword.com/bible-commentary/hebrews-11/>



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