

Message.

The faith and lives of Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph illustrate what it means to have faith in God's promises. True faith is a long-term commitment that perseveres beyond one's own lifetime. Pastor Lynfield outlined three key aspects of this faith: speaking life into the future by trusting God's plan, worshiping through every season of life, and holding fast to God's promises for future generations. The faith we demonstrate today through our words, worship, and hope can create a lasting legacy that encourages others to trust God. I encourage you to not only reflect on these truths, but to spend time reflecting on Hebrews 11:20-22 and going back to Genesis to see the full context of these men of faith.

Prayer.

Heavenly Father,

Through Your Holy Spirit's guidance, the faith of men long ago is preserved for the benefit of generations to come. Your promises hold true for eternity. No matter what I experience in this lifetime, I am blessed by the hope I have in You. May my faith hold strong to the future only You can provide and may You use me to help others find You.

Amen.

Scripture.

Hebrews 11:20-22

For more context on Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph see: Genesis 27, 48, 50

Engage.

Read Hebrews 11:1 and 11:20-22. How do the actions of Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph demonstrate that "faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen"?

Isaac blesses Jacob with a future of abundant resources and authority (Gen 27:28). Jacob blesses Joseph's sons, referring to God's past guidance and future promises (Gen 48:15-16). What do these blessings reveal about the way faith operates across generations?

A dying Joseph spoke about the exodus of the Israelites and gave instructions concerning his bones (Heb 11:22, Gen 50:24-25, Ex 13:19). Why do you think Joseph's final act, as described here, is considered a great act of faith? What did he have faith in?

Looking at these passages, what does it mean to have a faith that extends beyond your own lifetime, and why might that be a challenging concept for us to grasp?

How can we, like the patriarchs, speak life into the future for our families or communities, even when we don't see immediate results? What are some practical ways to do this?

The passages highlight that these men worshiped and trusted God through various seasons of life, both good and bad. When is it easiest for you to worship, and when is it most difficult? How can we grow in our ability to worship God through every season?

Read Hebrews 10:23. What is a specific promise of God that you are currently trying to "hold fast" to in your own life?

Considering the legacy of faith left by Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph, what kind of legacy of faith do you hope to leave behind for others? What is one thing you can do this week to live out that hope?

For these cities. For all people.