

Boldness through faith in the Lord

Genesis 18:17-19,23-33

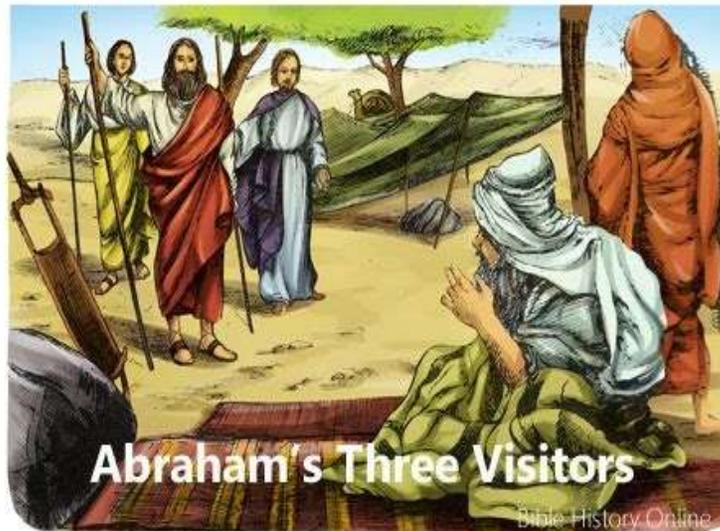
- Face challenging and uncertain times
- events that can traumatize us:
 - personal struggles – setbacks, sickness, deaths
 - pandemic – some light but no end yet
 - children’s future – studies significantly impacted
- can lead to discouragement and suicides

Covid 19 and mental health

Italian study July 2020 :

- 402 adults surviving COVID-19
- post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) – 28%
- Depression – 31%
- Anxiety (42%) / insomnia (40%)
- obsessive-compulsive (OC) (20%)

Genesis 18

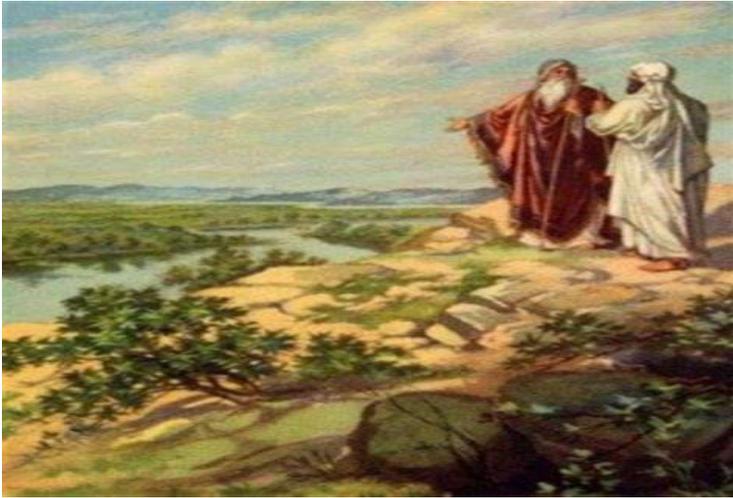


Entertained 3 visitors
with the best of Eastern
hospitality



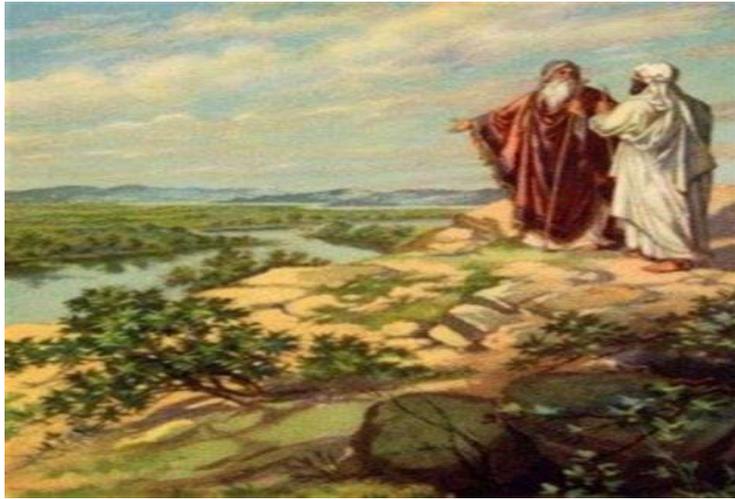
Promise Sarah would
have a child one year
later

Sodom and Gomorrah: Genesis 18:17-19



God revealed His plan of destruction for Sodom and Gomorrah.

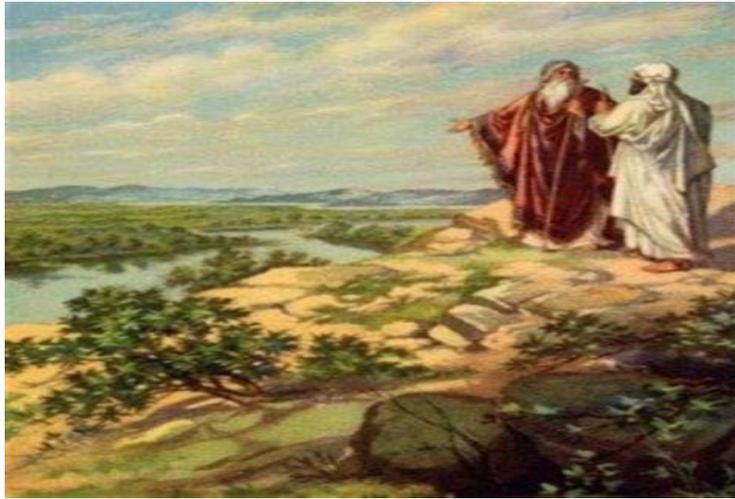
Spare Sodom and Gomorrah:



Plea based on
the justice of God
Genesis 18:23-28

- ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?”

Pleaded boldly
with the Lord:



Bargained with God

Will you spare the cities if
there are righteous
people in them?
(50...45...40...30.....10)

- ²⁷ Then Abraham spoke up again: “Now that I have been so bold as to speak to the Lord, though I am nothing but dust and ashes,

Boldly and humbly

Abraham bargained boldly:

- ²³ “Will you sweep away the righteous with the wicked?”
- ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing—to kill the righteous with the wicked, treating the righteous and the wicked alike. Far be it from you! Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?”

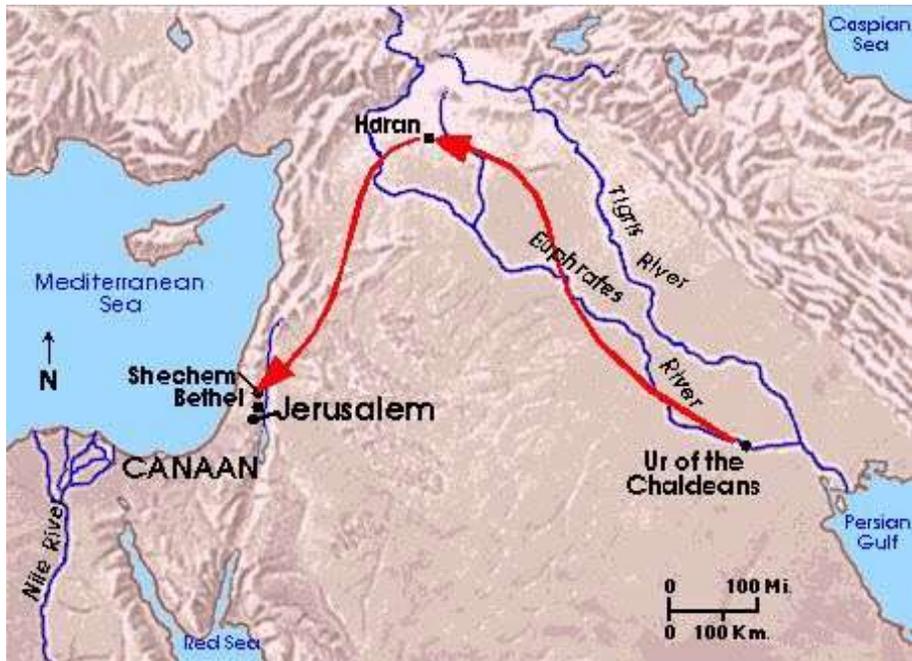
God agreed to spare
the cities

- Unfortunately, only Lot and his family were saved because of Abraham's bold appeal (19:29)

- Chosen to become a great nation by which nations will be blessed (18:19)
- He knew God was a righteous judge (18:25)
“Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?”

How did he come
to be bold?

Abraham was chosen (Genesis 11:27 – 12:7)



Joshua Said To All The People,
“This Is What The Lord , The
God Of Israel, Says: ‘Long Ago
Your Forefathers, Including Terah
The Father Of Abraham And
Nahor, Lived Beyond The River
And Worshiped Other Gods.

Joshua 24-2

BibleWordings.com

- Born 2166 BC in UR of Chaldeans
- Ancestors were idolaters
and polytheists (Chaldean gods).

Call and obedience (Genesis 12:1-5)

- The LORD had said to Abram, “Go from your country, your people and your father’s household to the land I will show you.
- ⁴ So Abram went, as the LORD had told him.

Promise of a great nation

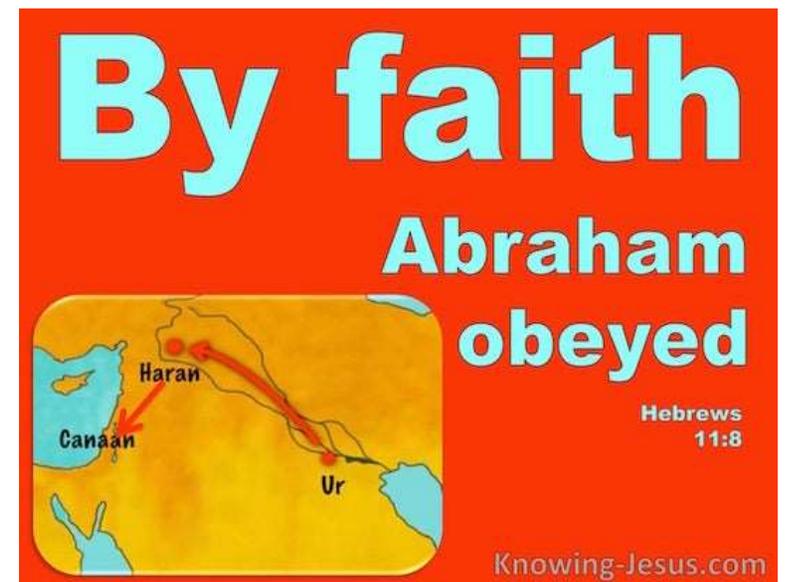
Call to promise land

Unknown land – apprehensions and fears.

Unknown prospects and future.

Separation from family and friends.

Dangerous journey.



Abrahamic covenant :

- Covenant was given (12:2-3)
- Covenant was ratified (15:1-18)
- Covenant was sealed with circumcision
- name changed to Abraham (17:1-14)

God's initiative

Faith journey: Misadventures

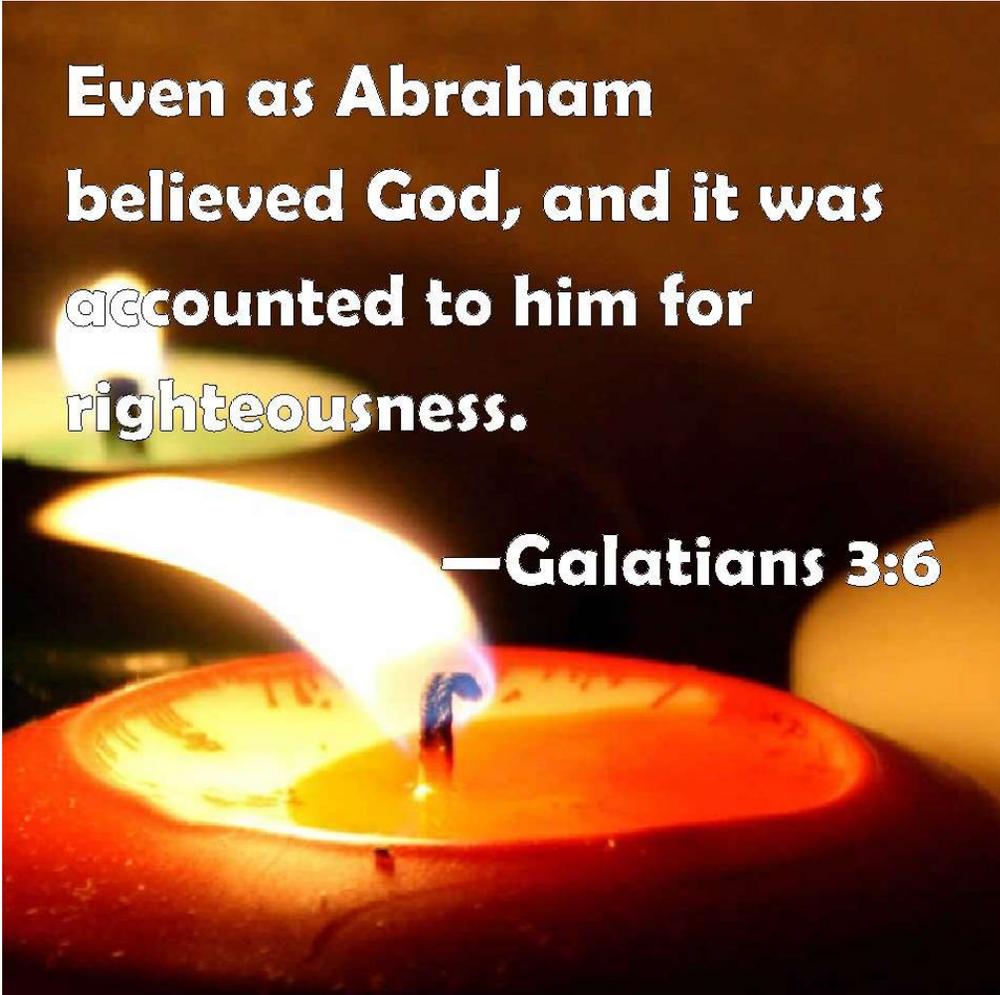
- Abram and Sarah in Egypt (12:10-20)
- Hagar and Ishmael (16:1-16)

Experienced
life's ups
and downs
like us.



Abraham's journey of faith was a gradual process.
Through daily ups and downs, he developed a
boldness in the presence of the Lord.

Abraham believed God

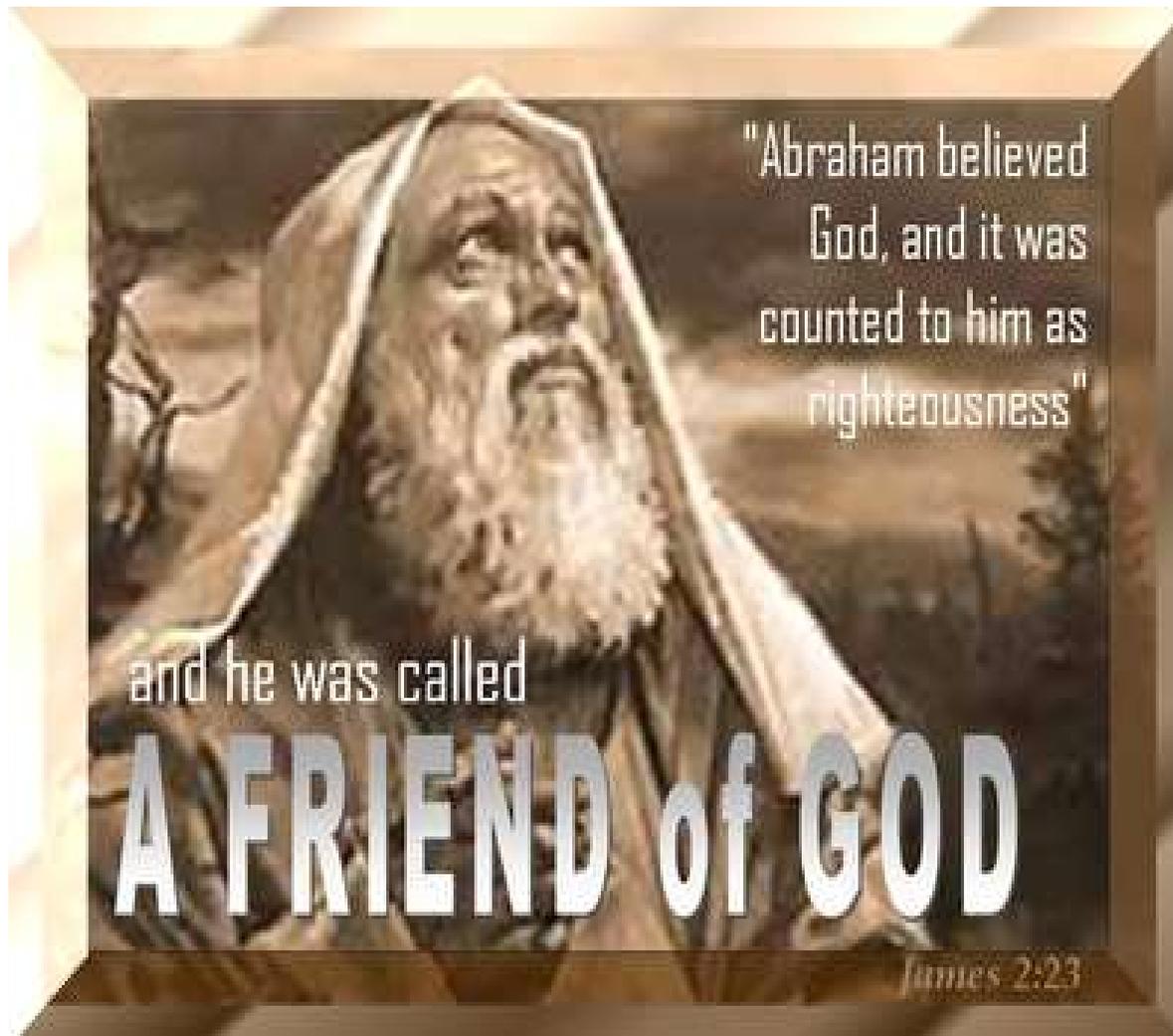


**Even as Abraham
believed God, and it was
accounted to him for
righteousness.**

—Galatians 3:6

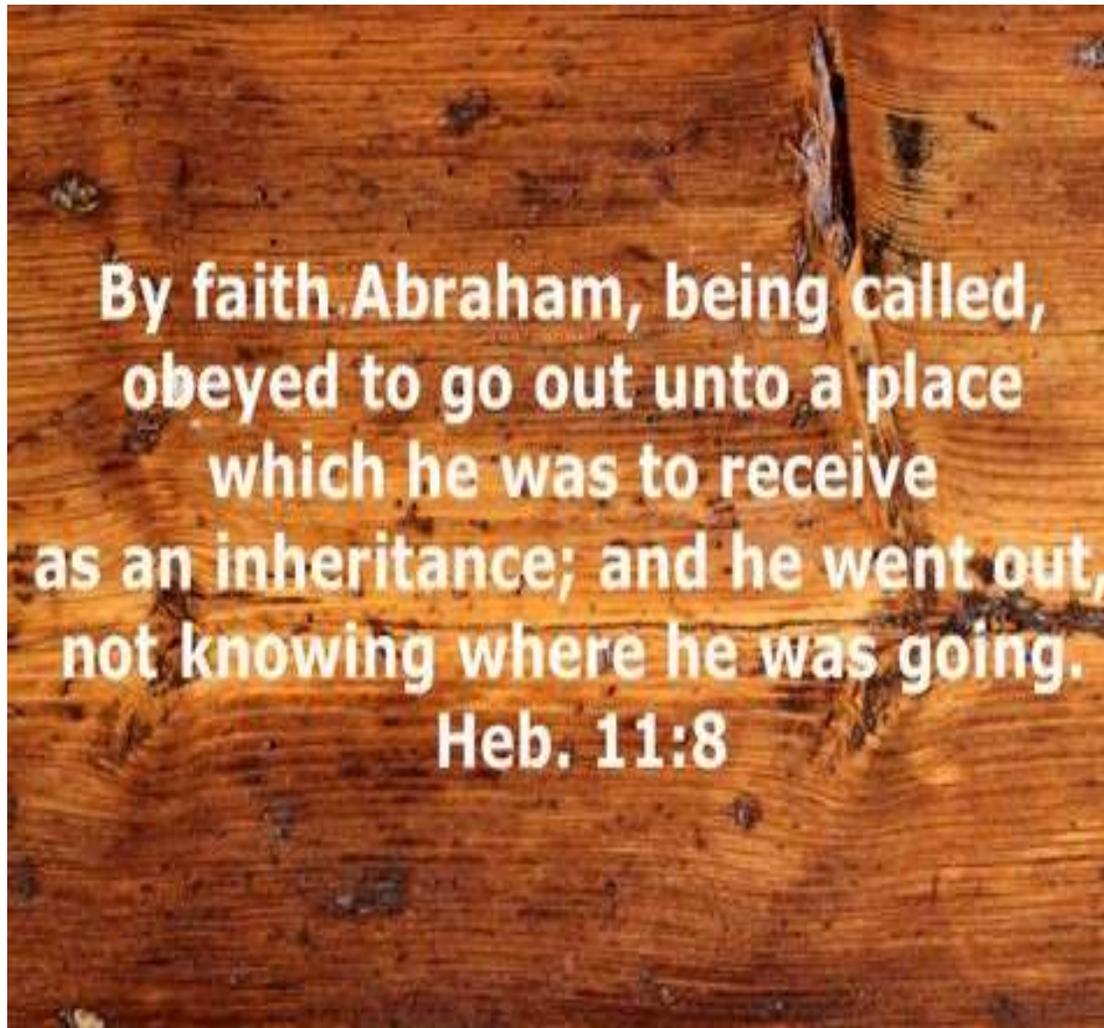
God chose Abraham,
Abraham believed.

Abraham was credited
righteous not through the
Law but because of his
faith



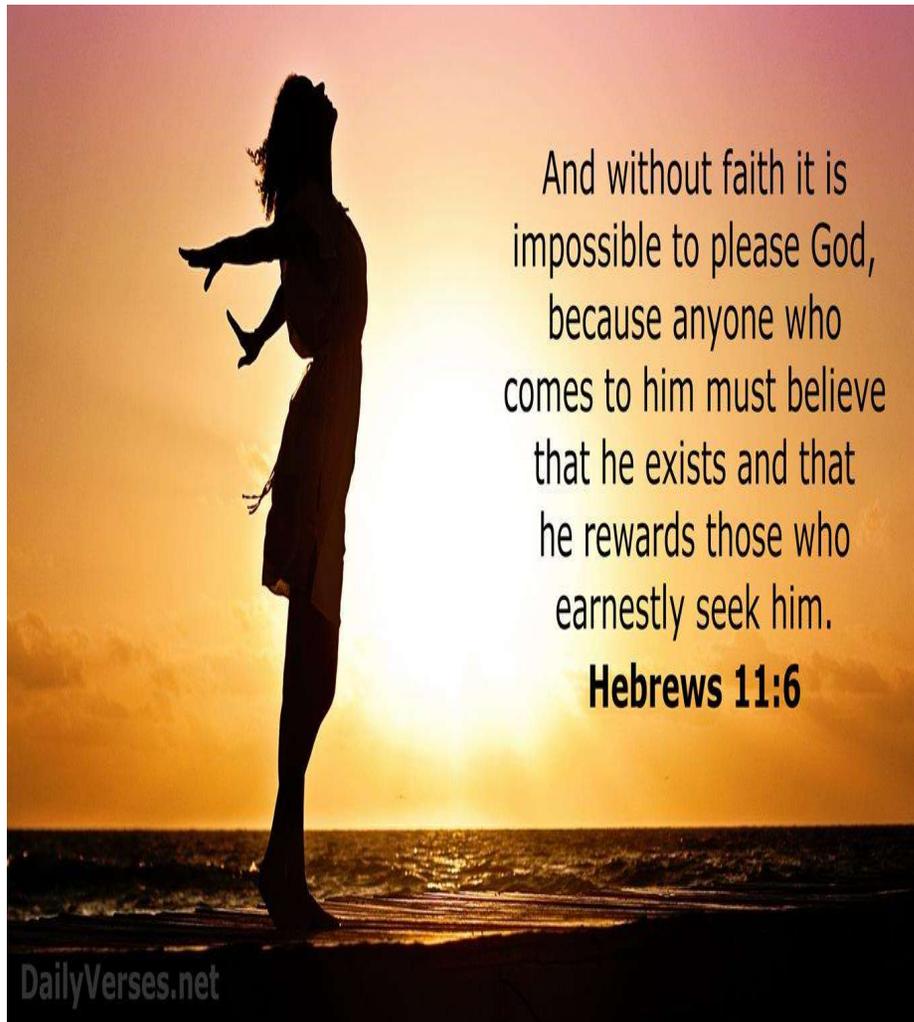
He was called
a friend.
James 2:23

Bold in the Lord.....
because of his faith



By faith Abraham
Obeyed

Faith.... led to boldness



Believed God exists :
He is a just God.

Believed that He
rewards those who
seek Him :
listen to his pleading

Acts 4:23-30

²⁴ When they heard this, they raised their voices together in prayer to God. “Sovereign Lord,” they said, “you made the heavens and the earth and the sea, and everything in them. ²⁵ You spoke by the Holy Spirit through the mouth of your servant, our father David:

- “Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain?
²⁶ The kings of the earth rise up and the rulers band together against the Lord and against his anointed one.

- ²⁷ Indeed Herod and Pontius Pilate met together with the Gentiles and the people of Israel in this city to conspire against your holy servant Jesus, whom you anointed. ²⁸ They did what your power and will had decided beforehand should happen. ²⁹ Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. ³⁰ Stretch out your hand to heal and perform signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus.”

Peter and John: (Acts 4:1-22)



Healing of the lame beggar (chapter 3).

Arrested while preaching and teaching in the temple

Before the Sanhedrin:
Warned not to preach.
Threatened and released

Faced threats they:

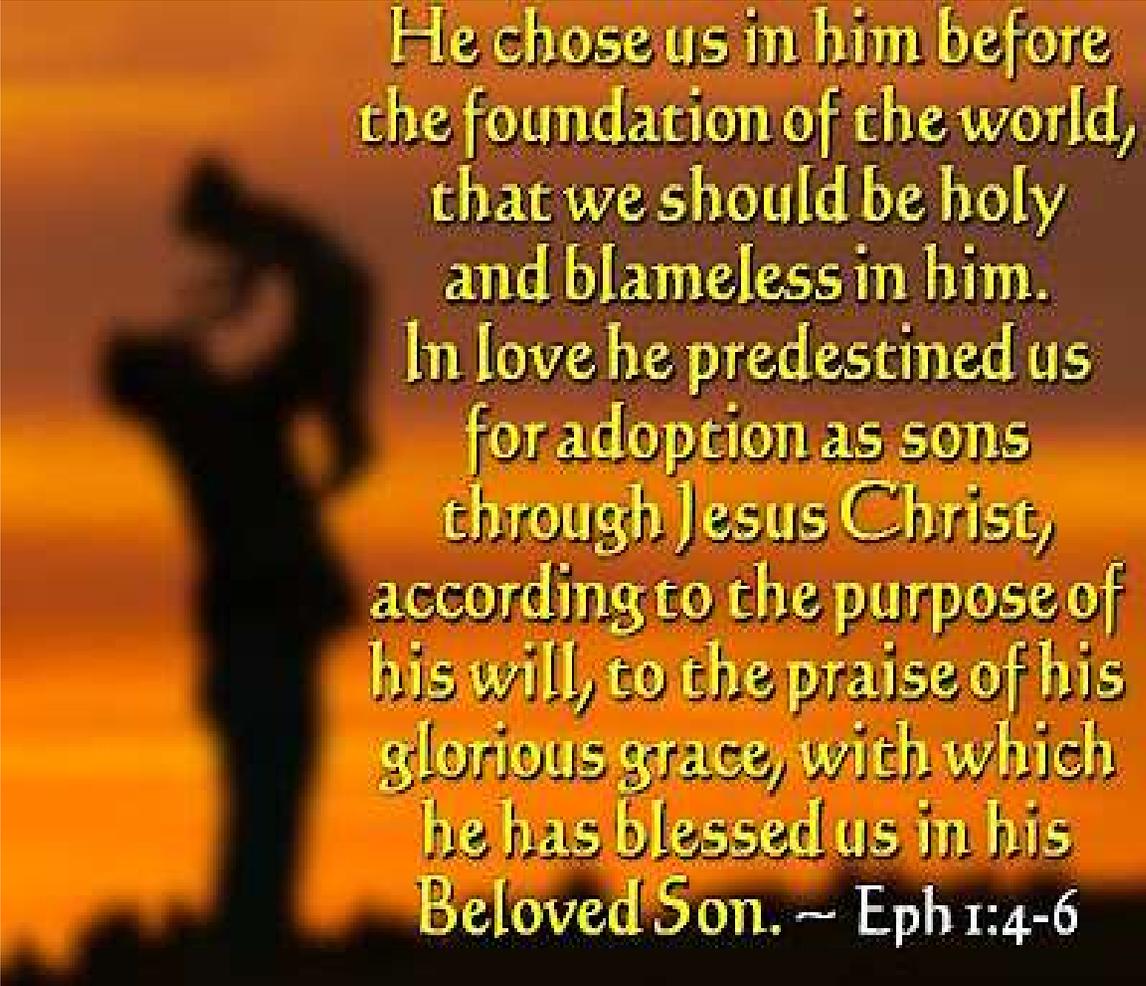
- Raised their voices to God.
- Believed God as Sovereign Creator and was in control.
- Prayed for boldness to speak and preach.

The Spirit enabled
them to speak boldly.

Bold like Abraham... and the disciples

- We are also chosen by God
- Children of Abraham by faith
- We can know God and His promises through His Word

Chosen by God



He chose us in him before
the foundation of the world,
that we should be holy
and blameless in him.
In love he predestined us
for adoption as sons
through Jesus Christ,
according to the purpose of
his will, to the praise of his
glorious grace, with which
he has blessed us in his
Beloved Son. ~ Eph 1:4-6

He chose us
to be adopted
as sons.



For All Groups of Believers
to Receive the Blessings
Promised to Abraham



"Therefore know that only those who are of faith are sons of Abraham. And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the nations by faith, preached the gospel to Abraham beforehand, saying, 'In you all the nations shall be blessed.' So then those who are of faith are blessed with believing Abraham." Galatians 3:7-9

Children of
Abraham
by faith

God spoke

Hebrews 1:1-3

In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word. After he had provided purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty in heaven.

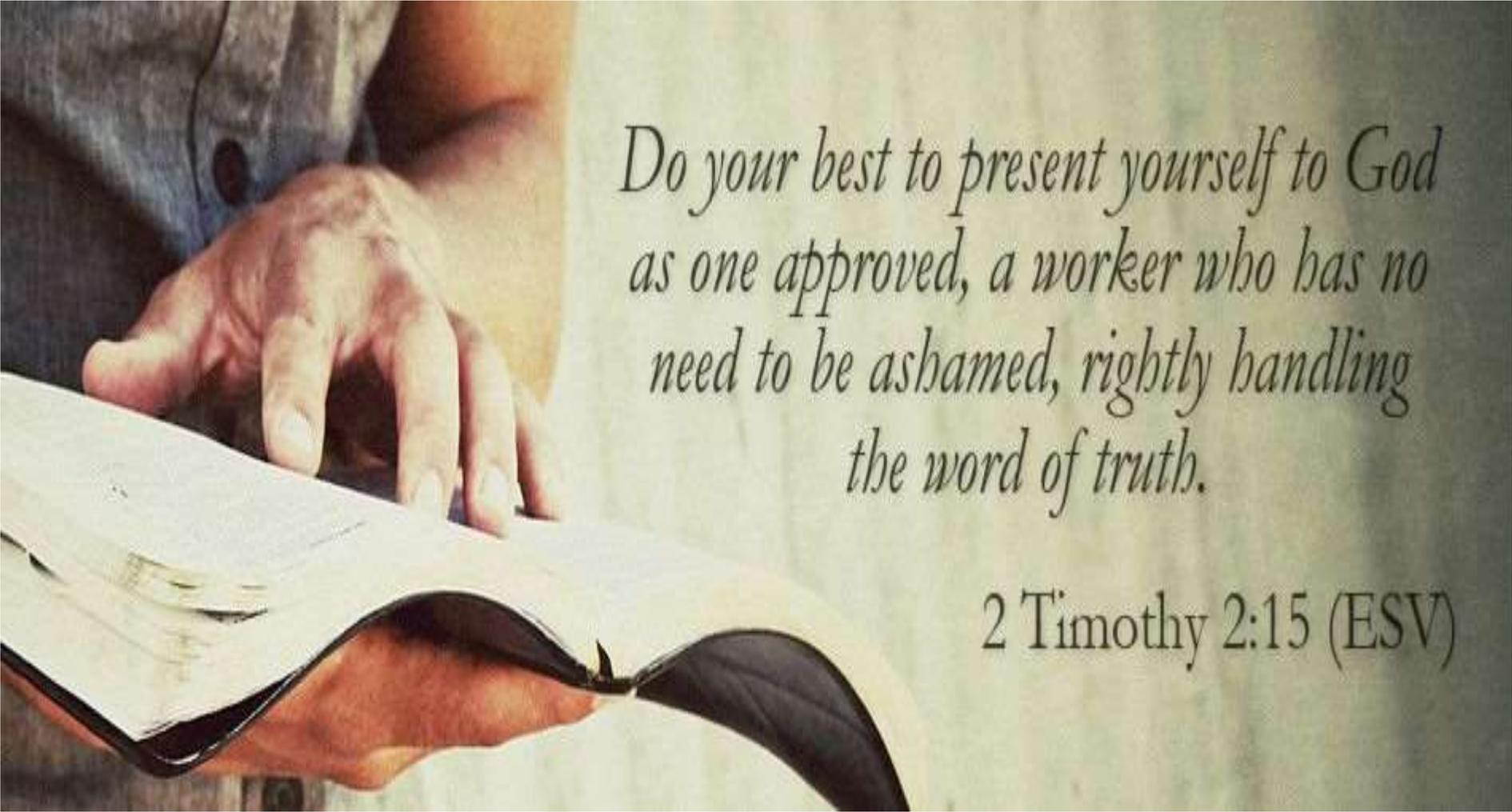
**God has revealed
Himself to us
In His Word**



All Scripture is God-breathed
and is useful for teaching,
rebuking, correcting and
training in righteousness,
so that the servant of God
may be thoroughly equipped
for every good work.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

Study the Word



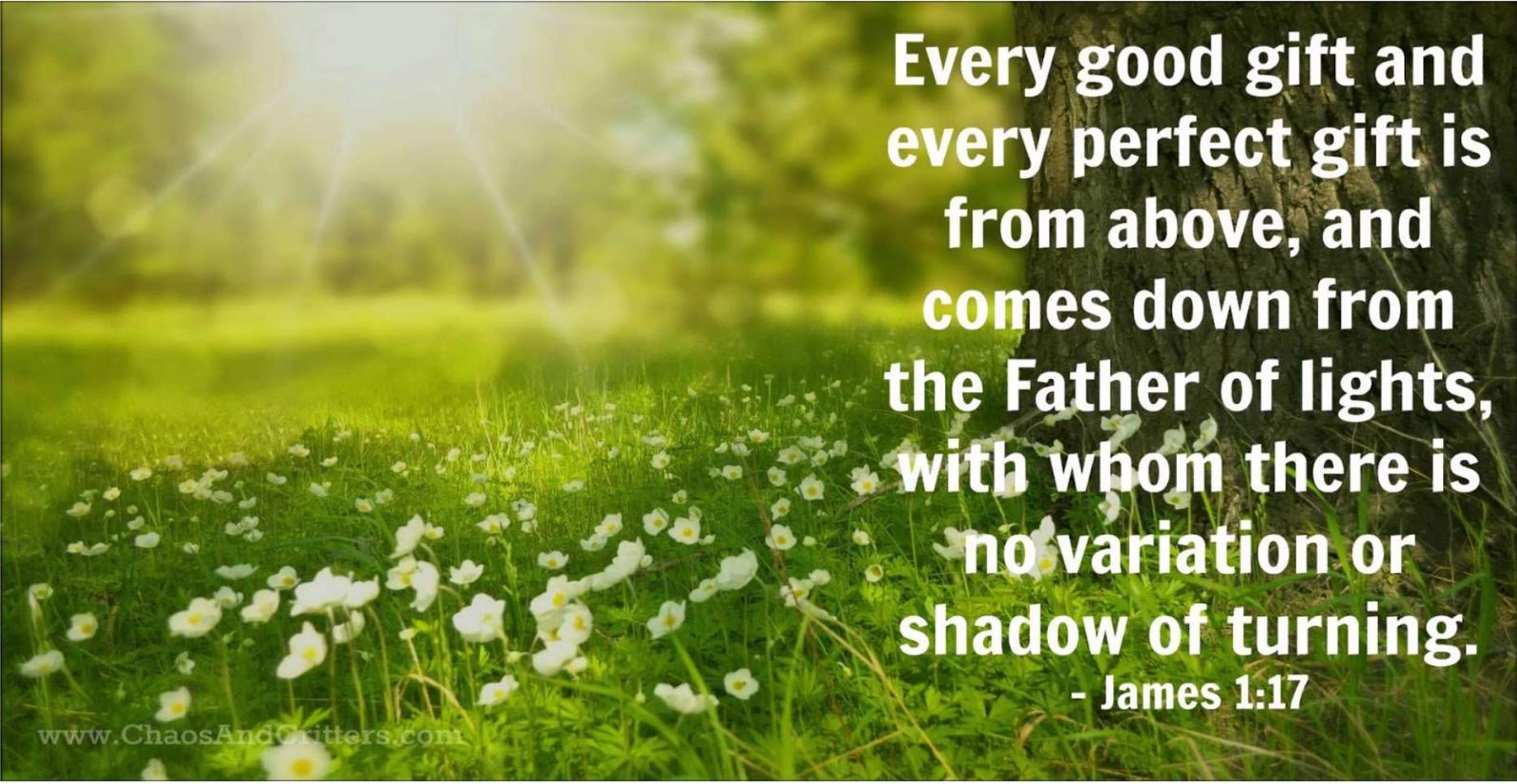
*Do your best to present yourself to God
as one approved, a worker who has no
need to be ashamed, rightly handling
the word of truth.*

2 Timothy 2:15 (ESV)

Boldness in prayer

- He rewards those who seek Him.
- He acts justly according to His sovereign will.
- He is trustworthy for the outcome.

Rewards those who
seek Him: God is good



**Every good gift and
every perfect gift is
from above, and
comes down from
the Father of lights,
with whom there is
no variation or
shadow of turning.**

- James 1:17



He that spared not his own Son,
but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not
with him also freely give us all things?

Romans 8:32

He love us
/ has given
us the best gift

He will act justly

Jonah 4:2

² He prayed to the LORD, "O LORD, is this not what I said when I was still at home? That is why I was so quick to flee to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity.



**Errant prophet
who knew God**

**God is just
and merciful**

Trust God for a just outcome:

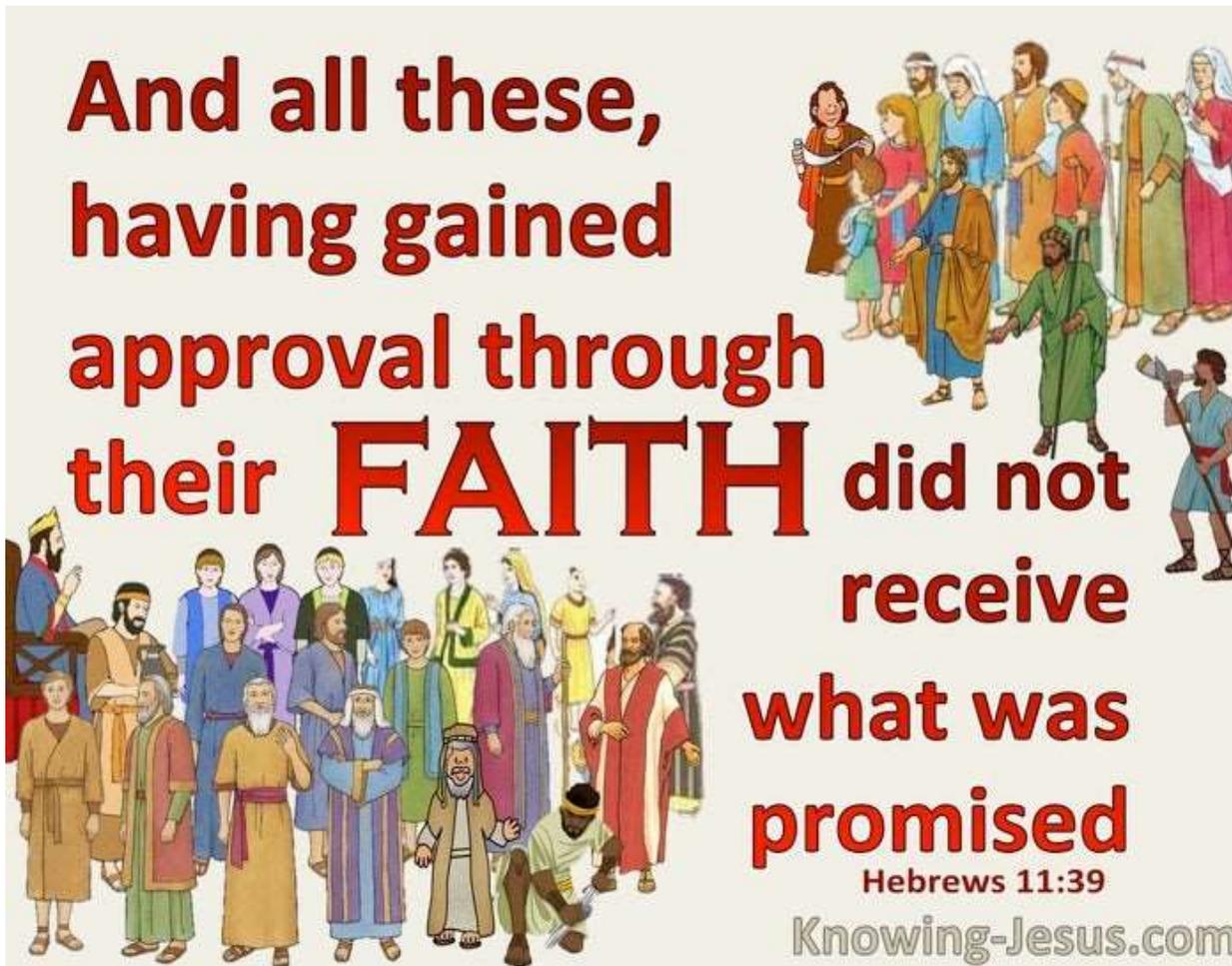
Good outcomes of faith (Hebrews 11:32- 35)

- Gideon, Barak, Samson and Jephthah, David, Samuel and the prophets
- through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, and gained what was promised
- whose weakness was turned to strength; and who became powerful in battle and routed foreign armies.

Died in faith
(11:13,35- 40)

**And all these,
having gained
approval through
their **FAITH** did not
receive
what was
promised**

Hebrews 11:39
Knowing-Jesus.com



Not only live
by faith, but
also died
in faith

He is trustworthy

**⁵ TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART,
AND LEAN NOT ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING;**

**⁶ IN ALL YOUR WAYS ACKNOWLEDGE HIM,
AND HE SHALL DIRECT YOUR PATHS.**

PROVERBS 3:5-6



Good plans



He has good
plans for us

Bold to face daily troubles

- Believe God exist in our 'troubles'.
- Believe God is good and hears our prayers/ appeals for deliverance.
- Believe God will act justly and do what is right.

Like the disciples, pray for
boldness.

Bold to enter His presence

In him [Jesus our Lord]
and through faith in
him we may approach
God with freedom and
confidence.

- Ephesians 3:12 -



Wonderful
Invitation to
all believers
(Ephesians 3:12)

Hebrews 4:16

- Let us therefore **come boldly** unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need

Be bold to
face each day.

