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## Stories of Faith That Jesus is Better — Hebrews 11:23-40

### Warm-Up Question:

Share a story of someone that lived by faith in a situation that encouraged you.

**READ: Hebrews 11:23-40**

### I. FAITH: TRUSTING THE STORY GOD IS WRITING FOR YOU

- Share which story of faith from v. 29-34 do you most love and why.
- How did they demonstrate an “assurance in things hoped for and conviction of things not seen (Heb. 11:1)”?
- v. 29-34 include stories of those who conquered and escaped by faith. Describe the story God gave others who lived by faith in v. 35-38
- What thoughts produce most fear or anxiety in terms of God writing suffering into your story of faith?
- What do you want faith look like in the midst of your suffering seasons of life?

### II. FAITH: TREASURING THE SAVIOR GOD HAS PROVIDED FOR YOU

- Describe some of the “treasures of Egypt” that Moses gave up in contrast to the “reproach of Christ” and the desert life?
- Read v. 25. From v. 26, WHY did Moses choose that?
- Discuss how this motivation differs from 1) obligation/duty, 2) trying to earn God’s approval, or 3) self-denial of what he really wanted, pleasures in Egypt
- Read Psalm 16:11 and Phil. 3:7-8 and discuss what “faith” sees is our true treasure and reward. How should seeing that affect how we battle sin & idols?
- Share some of the world’s pleasures that most allure your heart to value them most. Then share something you about Christ that is just better, of more value.

**What is one main take-away you want to apply in your life this week?**

“Jesus must become more beautiful to your imagination, more attractive to your heart, than your idol. That is what will replace your counterfeit gods. If you uproot the idol and fail to “plant” the love of Christ in its place, the idol will grow back.” - Tim Keller

“There are two ways in which a practical moralist may attempt to displace from the human heart its love of the world—either by a demonstration of the world’s vanity, or by setting forth another object, even God, as more worthy of its attachment. To call the world vain is a small step toward extinguishing its love. Misplaced affections may be withdrawn, but it is not by the mere force of mental determination that this can be done. *The only way to dispossess the heart of an old affection is by the expulsive power of a new one.* It is not enough to show the world’s worthlessness; we must give the heart something better to love—to exchange an old affection



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## Scriptures Used

**Heb. 11:23** By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. **24** By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, **25** choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. **26** He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. **27** By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. **28** By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

**Heb. 11:29** By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. **30** By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. **31** By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.

**Heb. 11:32** And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets — **33** who through faith conquered kingdoms, enforced justice, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, **34** quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. **35** Women received back their dead by resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing to accept release, so that they might rise again to a better life. **36** Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. **37** They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated — **38** of whom the world was not worthy — wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

**Heb. 11:39** And all these, though commended through their faith, did not receive what was promised, **40** since God had provided something better for us, that apart from us they should not be made perfect.

**Psa. 16:11**            You make known to me the path of life;  
                              in your presence there is fullness of joy;  
                              at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

**Phil. 3:7** But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. **8** Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ