**Faith to Go**

Sunday School Lesson 4

*Faith in Action*

Hebrews 11:8-10

5/26/2024

**Introduction & Recap:** Last week, we looked at how our faith prompts us to give. First, we observed that we can give because we have faith that the Lord will give back to us. This doesn’t mean that we will have earthly riches, but it does mean that the Lord will reward our generosity. Ultimately, we are to live for Heavenly rewards and not for materials in this world. Second, we observed that we can give because we have faith that the Lord will take care of us. Our generosity is based upon our faith that the Lord can and will meet our needs. If He commands us to give, then we ought to have confidence that He will give to us what we need. Third, we can give because we have faith that money is not the source of real joy. Contentment is the direct result of our faith. We observed this from the children of Israel in the wilderness. They did not have their trust in the Lord, and they were a very discontent people. When we trust the Lord, we realize that the things of this world cannot satisfy us. We trust Him for joy, peace, and comfort. Fourth, we can give because we have faith in God’s system of giving to Him. We understand that there is nothing we can ultimately give to God that He needs from us. He desires our faith. He desires our worship. He does not need our money. Yet, He commands us to give both in the church and to others. He loves a cheerful giver. His Word shows us that we ultimately give to Him when we give to others. This takes trust on our part in God’s design for giving. Lastly, we can give because we have faith that giving is good for us. We trust the Lord that it truly is more blessed to give than to receive. For today’s lesson, we are going to look at how faith prompts us to go where the Lord leads us. This is based on Abraham’s decision to go out from his home and follow God’s leading. Let’s consider the following:

1. **WE CAN GO WHEREVER THE LORD LEADS BECAUSE WE TRUST HIS PERSPECTIVE.**

* *Psalm 33:13 The Lord looketh from heaven; he beholdeth all the sons of men. 14 From the place of his habitation he looketh upon all the inhabitants of the earth. 15 He fashioneth their hearts alike; he considereth all their works. Proverbs 5:21 For the ways of man are before the eyes of the Lord, and he pondereth all his goings. Proverbs 15:3 The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good. 1 Peter 3:12 For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.* Christians ought to be willing to go wherever the Lord leads us because we trust His vision. We know that His eyes are in every place. We know that His eyes are upon the ways of man. He sees the righteous. We trust that the Lord has a much better vantage point than we do. He is able to look down from His throne in Heaven and see everything that is in our path. A race car driver has what is called a spotter. This person sits in a tower and gives direction to the driver to help him avoid collision with other vehicles. The driver must trust his spotter to be successful in the race. We must trust the Lord as the One who spots all of the obstacles in our life. With His omniscience, He is able to effortlessly foresee all of the trouble that we will face. It should not be a difficult thing for us to trust that He can see what we cannot see. It’s pride that keeps us from trusting His vision.

1. **WE CAN GO WHEREVER THE LORD LEADS BECAUSE WE TRUST HIS PRESENCE.**

* *Exodus 13:21 And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night: 33:14 And he said, My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest. 15 And he said unto him, If thy presence go not with me, carry us not up hence. Hebrews 13:5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.* *Matthew 28:20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.* Before ascending back up to His throne in Heaven, Christ challenged His disciples to go. He called them to go into all the world and to preach the Gospel. This was a heavy calling. These men were devout Jews. The idea of them going out into all the world to share the message of the Gospel from the God of Israel was probably especially challenging for them at first. Yet, the Lord left His disciples with great words of comfort. He tells us in Matthew 28:20 that He is with us always, even unto the end of the world! The Lord tells us that there is no place that He will send His followers that He is not willing to go. He is with us always. We can have absolute confidence to go out anywhere in this world because the Lord is there. He’s in every continent. He’s in every city. He walks with His disciples still!

1. **WE CAN GO WHEREVER THE LORD LEADS BECAUSE WE TRUST HIS PURPOSE & PLAN.**

* *Romans 8:28 And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. Ephesians 1:9 Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: 2 Timothy 1:9 Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling, not according to our works, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began, Ecclesiastes 3:17 I said in mine heart, God shall judge the righteous and the wicked: for there is a time there for every purpose and for every work.* We can go where the Lord sends us because we trust that there is a purpose in every direction that He leads us in. God does not accidentally send us to some random place. We know that there is a reason behind everything. Additionally, we can trust that God’s purpose is for our good for those who follow Him and seek to obey His commands. What was God’s purpose in calling Abraham away from His home? His purpose was to bring him into the beautiful land of promise. His purpose was to make of Him a great nation. What was the purpose God had in calling Noah to go out and build an ark? His purpose was the salvation of Noah and his family. We can go anywhere because we trust His purpose.

1. **WE CAN GO WHEREVER THE LORD LEADS BECAUSE WE TRUST HIS PRIORITIES.**

* *John 5:30 I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me. 1 Peter 3:17 For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing. Ephesians 6:6 Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servants of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart; Matthew 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.* Going where the Lord sends is not just based on our trust of His purpose and plan. It is also based on our trust in His priorities. This is important when the places He takes us to do not seem to align with what we think is in our own best interests. This is because He has priorities for what He desires to be accomplished in this world. He has His plan and purpose for our lives, but He also has His will for mankind. His desire is for mankind to be saved. For this reason, He led His disciples to places of personal discomfort. They faced suffering and persecution for the sake of the Gospel. Jesus Christ is our ultimate example in this. He came and gave His life on the cross of Calvary to fulfill the will of the Father. He shows us that we can go wherever the Lord leads when we trust that His priorities are really what should be the most important. We are called to seek the kingdom of God first. His priorities are supposed to be our priorities.

1. **WE CAN GO WHEREVER THE LORD LEADS BECAUSE WE TRUST HIS PROPHECY.**

* *2 Peter 1:19 We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: 20 Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. 21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. John 12:38 That the saying of Esaias the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spake, Lord, who hath believed our report? and to whom hath the arm of the Lord been revealed?* When the Lord tells us to go, He often gives us insight into where He wants us to go and what will happen when we get there. Throughout Scripture, this is regarded as prophecy. The Lord revealed some prophecy to Abraham when He showed him what would happen leading up to the children of Israel going into the Promised Land. The Lord revealed prophecy to Samuel when He called him to go forth. While we do not have new prophecy today, there are many things that the Bible shows us will happen when we go certain places that the Lord leads us to. In like manner, we must trust the Word of the Lord when It reveals to us where the Lord is leading us to. We also must trust the Holy Spirit in the same manner. The people of Israel would not go where the Lord called them to go because they did not believe the prophecy connected with the call. This is why Isaiah asked who had believed their report. May we trust the promises and prophecy of the Lord and His provisional hand that guides us along the way.