



Journey: Faith in the Unseen or Traveling Blind

Listen! You don't really need to know where you are going but you do need to trust that someone in the car does know.

- **Question:** Can you take it by faith that God is right about all that He says—even though much of it is still invisible?

Idea: We are sojourners here...therefore we journey by faith in unseen realities.

We are sojourners here. Hebrews 11 and 1 Peter 1:1/2:11.

- Temporary residents—just passing through:
- Aliens to this world and culture—feeling uneasy:
- On mission “to lovingly turn lost and broken people...:
- Created for another place—longing for the real and enduring place:
- App: Don't make yourself at home and don't get off mission.

We journey by faith in unseen realities. Hebrews 11:1, 6.

- Faith = the assurance of things hoped for.
- Faith = the conviction of things not seen.
- Faith = the essential element for pleasing God.
- Faith does not = “hope so” or “wish for” or “believing hard enough” to force it to happen.
- The key response of a sojourner is absolute faith in the declarations of God—a willingness to “bet the farm” on the unseen truths that God declares to us.

Unseen realities mandate specific choices:

CORE JOURNEY REALITIES:

- God exists so...
- This world is not the most real world so...
- This world is not the most enduring world so...
- This life is temporary so...
- This world is not our home so...
- The next world is eternal so...
- The best rewards are later so...

KEY JOURNEY CHOICES:

- we worship and pursue Him.
- we live for the next world.
- we live for the next world.
- we reject “resident” choices.
- we feel uneasy here.
- we prepare for the next one.
- we wait for better rewards.

For Instance: Abraham. Hebrews 11 and Genesis 15:6/22:10 and Gal 3:6-9. God calls Abraham “The Believer.” Like Abraham we are sojourners here...therefore we journey by faith in unseen realities—we live by a willingness to “bet the farm” on the unseen.

Application: Do you foundationally believe that the next world is both more real and more enduring and more your home? Does your life reflect this belief?

Application: What is God calling you to trust Him for right now?

Walking Papers

Practical helps for walking with Christ this week.

- **Idea:** We are sojourners here...therefore we journey by faith in unseen realities.

Please take some time each day this week for "spiritual recalibration" by thinking through the following ideas and questions related to having "eternity in our hearts:"

- **Today:** Read Hebrews 11. What are the unseen realities that the people of faith believed?
- **Monday:** Read Hebrews 11. What are some of the ways that the people of faith responded in faith to the things God declared?
- **Tuesday:** Read Hebrews 11. Can you recite times in your life when you really believed that God was going to do something and other times when you were in a severe "hope so" mode?
- **Wednesday:** Read Hebrews 11. What is the evidence in your own life that you are living, in some measure, for this world? What is the evidence in your life that you are living, in some measure, for the next world?
- **Thursday:** Read Hebrews 11. In what ways did the people of faith reject immediate rewards and wait for better rewards?
- **Friday:** Read Hebrews 11 and Gen 15:1 and Gen 22:10 and Galatians 3:6-9. What must have been going on in the heart of Abraham to make him continually "bet the farm" on the word of God? Why did he keep doing that?
- **Saturday:** Read Hebrews 11. Look at the names of the people of faith in this chapter and answer the question, "How did their lives on earth end up and end?"
- **Bonus Idea:** What is God calling you to trust Him for that is so big that unless He shows up it will not happen?