

Introduction:

- Tonight is message number five in a series entitled Faith Loves An Adventure. We are growing our faith together in these messages. If you want to be pleasing to God, faith is the best route to go! Not only does faith please God but it becomes a way better motivator than fear.
- Webster defines Adventure - as a venture/activity involving danger or risk. Faith loves that! In fact, you would be hard pressed to find faith in the Bible that is absent of danger or risk.
 - Faith is an experience that seemingly may 'set one' up for loss or harm **IF** God does not come through.
 - For most people, starting that adventure means you have to take a step of faith. If you are taking a step then you are beginning to walk with God. Maybe you took a step of faith last week and in response to the message started tithing to God and sow your offerings.
- Two scriptures to start with tonight
 - *"For we **walk by faith, not by sight.**"* (2 Corinthians 5:7, NKJV)
 - Faith vs. common sense. Faith governs the spiritual and common sense governs the natural (for some people.) What we need more of in our lives is the walk and life of faith...to live a life with testimony because of our faith.
 - *"By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him."* (Hebrews 11:5-6, ESV)

I. Enoch Pleased God Heb 11:5-6 This is one of two things Enoch is noted for: He pleased God and he disappeared.

A. God said that Enoch had faith. Heb 11:5

1. He was commended as having faith before he was taken up.
 - a) The word commended is from the Gk word marturion – witness.
 - (1) It was a witness of his life, and by others that he was a man of faith who believed in God.
 - (2) This testimony is to the generations! We should be inspired by this one we know so little about just because he please God and God translated him.
 - (3) What would God do for us if we walked with Him???
 - b) That he was "commended as having faith" tells us that faith can be seen and recognized by others.
 - c) This tells us that our faith is a testimony to God. It pleases Him.

B. His faith pleased God.

1. The word pleased means 'well pleasing'. It is more than just pleased, it is very pleasing.
2. God took pleasure in Enoch's faith. Enoch's expression of faith in God resulted in God experiencing the presence of Enoch. Faith does this!
3. Enoch's faith touched his character. (Paul would be happy) Enoch's faith touched his works. (James would be happy) Enoch's faith touched his God. (God was happy!) "And if God ain't happy ain't nobody happy!"

C. Enoch's faith led to a personal relationship with God.

1. He drew near to God. Heb 11:6
2. *"Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world."* (James 4:8, NLT)
3. He knew that the God who could not be seen existed and by faith he drew near to him!

II. Enoch Walked With God Gen 5:22-24.

- A. Enoch is the first man since Adam to have walked with God. Perhaps he learned from great, great, great, great, grandfather Adam about walking with God and he got hungry to do it.
- B. To walk with someone is to be in close fellowship with them. *"Can two people walk together without agreeing on the direction?"* (Amos 3:3, NLT) Enoch Lived In Close Fellowship With God Gen 5:22. This is spoken of him in both the entry and exit of him in scripture. Two times it is said of Enoch that he walked with God.
 1. To walk also implies movement. Enoch stayed in step with God. The movement of God created movement in Enoch's life.
 2. IE. I also think of the two men on the road to Emmaus. They were walking Jesus and did not know. All they knew was that as He spoke their hearts burned with in them. They were feeling connected to this 'stranger.' God has that way about him of making us want to be connected to him. Enoch did not resist that.
- C. He disappeared. God translated him from this earth to that heavenly world.
 1. What can we learn from this statement? Walk with God so that you will be raised up and not taste death.
 2. My favorite expression is that Enoch got so far out there with God that he could not get back. Faith Loves an Adventure.

III. Walk By Faith Not By Sight

- A. Faith is absolutely necessary in the Christian life.
 1. We are saved, born again, made alive in Christ by faith alone. Faith is absolutely necessary if one is to have a relationship with God. We are saved, justified, cleansed, and sanctified all by faith. Faith gives us access to our starting point with God.
 2. And if it takes faith to come into relationship with God. It will absolutely take faith to continue with Him. And if you want to live a life pleasing to God you will not be able to work yourself into that place. One thing is required: faith!
 - a) *"And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him."* (Hebrews 11:6, NLT) Believers should desire to please God and faith is the way to do it.
 - b) Living by faith is action based on belief and trust in God. This is what Enoch did and it is what we are called to.
- B. An exhortation to believers to walk by faith not by sight. If we are made alive by faith we are to walk by faith.
 1. "Walking by Faith is simply being where God is and doing what God is doing." author unknown.

2. Walk: περιπατεω, *peripatéō* means “to walk around,” and in a transferred sense “to live.”
Kittel, G., Friedrich, G., & Bromiley, G. W. (1985). TDNT (p. 804). Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans.
 - a) Movement expresses life. Mark 2:9 Jesus tells the paralytic to “get up and walk.” Jesus is calling the man to get up and express what has just happened to him.
 - b) Paul, in our passage, is calling for the believer to live life in such a way that our lives are an expression of what we believe. It also means that we have to focus on this expression of faith in our lives. So our movement in this world is an expression of Christ in us. We are moved by something that is unseen. No wonder the world thinks we are crazy.
- C. Walk by faith is an exhortation to walk in the spirit vs. walk in the natural.
 1. Sight - means to walk by what is visible. In the natural things can be seen, felt, and smelled. The point is that we are to walk in a spiritual realm in which the invisible is more real than the natural. Kittel, G., Friedrich, G., & Bromiley, G. W. (1985). TDNT (p. 202). Grand Rapids, MI: W.B. Eerdmans.
 2. The word walk in the bible often symbolizes the way we live, the way we act, and the way we conduct ourselves in this life.
 - a) This walk has reference to the fact that life is a journey, and the Christian is a person who is traveling to another country another place. A place not seen in the earth.
 - b) To walk by faith is to live in the confident expectation of things that are to come. The people of this world are influenced by the things that are seen. They live for wealth, power, and possessions. They live for the things, which this world can give.
 - c) But the Christian looks beyond this world with a conviction that believes there is a better place. To be ignorant of faith is to be ignorant of God. Therefore the more we walk by faith the more we must know of God.

Conclusion:

- Walk with God here and you will end up there! With Him!