Wednesday 15th July 2020

Scripture Reading — <u>Hebrews 11:1-6</u>

1Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. 2 This is what the ancients were commended for. 3 By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible. 4 By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead. 5 By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

Have you ever had someone in your life that has been confined to bed with an illness that has incapacitated them, yet have been known to praise God on many occasions. It is hard for people to understand how someone who has been stuck in bed for a lengthy period of time. And still find time to say that God is good. How, I find myself asking, well the answer is to be found in Hebrews 11 and throughout the chapter it is repeated "By Faith". God has gifted us, his people the faith which keeps us going in times of trouble. Just like the people 2000 years ago going through the desert or being enslaved they were just normal people like ourselves, they felt sad, and weakened, upset emotionally, they did things they should not have done, the temptation overcoming them. I am sure they must have doubted God at some points and thought where are you God? We are lucky today we have hindsight to know that they came through the horrendous times, and did so by receiving the faith only the Father could bestow on them. And it was this gift of Faith that these folks were able to live through these terrible days. We have been given the gift of Faith from God, and it will sustain us throughout our year on year. Accept this Gift of faith from God and open your eyes to see who has given us life, and the one who keeps us in our faith. Ensure that you receive openly this precious gift of Faith and live your life through Jesus Christ. You can be assured that he will walk with you at all the ties in your life.

Prayer

Loving Father, we praise and thank you for the precious gift of faith. Help us to see life through the eyes of faith; and live as you would want us to and walk daily with you by our side. Amen