Believing God

Presentation of Faith: Abel Message 2

> Perry Duggar June 28, 2020

Outline

It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering...

Hebrews 11:4a (NLT)

A. Introduction

(Genesis 4:1-2)

B. Abel's Offering was ... (Hebrews 11:4)

1. _____ by faith. (Hebrews 11:4a. C/R: Genesis 3:21; 4:3-5; Proverbs 14:21; Romans 5:9; 12:1; Hebrews 9:22; 13:15-16) 2. _____ by God. (Hebrews 11:4b. C/R: Genesis 4:6-8; Leviticus 9:24; Romans 8:15-16; James 2:14)

3. Assertion of necessity of ______. (Hebrews 11:4c. C/R: Genesis 4:8-10; John 14:15,21; James 1:22; 3:15-16; 1 John 3:11-12)

Answers: 1. Acceptable 2. Approved 3. obedience

Resource Information: Scripture quotations marked (NLT) are taken from the *Holy Bible*, New Living Translation, copyright © 1996, 2004, 2015 by Tyndale House Foundation. Used by permission of Tyndale House Publishers, a Division of Tyndale House Ministries, Carol Stream, Illinois 60188. All rights reserved. C/R refers to a 'cross reference.' Today's outline and discussion guide are available through the Brookwood Church app.

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Discussion Guide

Use this guide by yourself or with friends to study the Bible and pursue a deeper relationship with God. Check out other Bible study tools at biblegateway.com, biblestudytools.com or blueletterbible.org.

Opening in Prayer

Pause for a few minutes to quiet your heart and mind. Ask God to help you experience His love and hear His voice as you study and reflect on this week's lesson.

Conversation Starter

Describe a time you experienced peace this past week.

Personal Reflection/Group Discussion

Read Hebrews 11:1-4; Genesis 4:1-16

- 1. What do these two passages tell us about Abel? Make a list of all the things you see so you can simply get to know him better (such as *son of Adam, brought a more acceptable offering,* etc.).
- 2. Why was Abel's gift more acceptable than Cain's?
- 3. How would you describe the difference between trying to please God *by works* and trying to please God *by faith*?
- 4. What are ways you try to make God happy with you? If God has already justified us (by faith in the work of Jesus), why do we keep trying to justify ourselves?
- 5. How many times is the word *brother* used in <u>Genesis 4:1-16</u> and <u>1 John 3:12</u>? Why is this emphasized?

- 6. What does <u>2 Corinthians 9:5-15</u> say about *how* and *why* we are to be generous givers?
- 7. The story of Abel teaches us that faith is demonstrated through what we offer to God. What will you offer to God this week?

Digging Deeper

8. If we're supposed to live by faith and not by works (<u>Ephesians 2:8-9</u>; <u>Galatians 2:16</u>), why does Jesus tell us to obey His commandments? Study John 14:12-21 and write down what Jesus reveals to you.

Soul Training

One way to grow in faith is to continually remember Jesus. Because we haven't lived the way God designed us (we have sinned, <u>Romans 3:23</u>), we deserve death (<u>Romans 6:23</u>). But while we were still sinners, Jesus died for us (<u>Romans 5:8</u>). Jesus took the penalty of our sin upon Himself, so we would *be righteous, holy and blameless before God without a single fault* (<u>Romans 3:24-26</u>; <u>Colossians 1:21-22</u>). Jesus did the works we couldn't do to satisfy the law of God (<u>Romans 8:3-4</u>; <u>2 Corinthians 5:18-21</u>).

Read the Scriptures referenced above. Each day this week, thank God for His gift of salvation and life. Allow this time with God to help you grow in faith.

Memory Verse

It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering...

Hebrews 11:4a (NLT)

Daily Reading

Day 1: <u>Romans 5:1-8</u>	Day 4: <u>James 1:17-18</u>
Day 2: <u>Hebrews 13:15-18</u>	Day 5: <u>Matthew 7:24-29</u>
Day 3: Leviticus 9:18-24	

Prepare for Next Sunday

Sunday, July 5, we'll continue the summer series *Believing God*, with a closer look at the life of Enoch. To prepare, read <u>Genesis 5:21-27</u>; and <u>Hebrews 11:5-6</u>.