# Sermon Handout – "An Introduction to Faith" (Hebrews 11:1-3) January 21, 2024

#### 1. Introduction:

a. The Author of Hebrews addresses the Hopelessness and Profound Despair within the Jewish Culture of Believers.

(Hebrews 10: 35-38) Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise:

### 2. <u>Understanding Faith:</u> What is Faith and How Does it Work?

(Hebrews 11:1) "Now <u>faith</u> is the substance of things <u>hoped</u> for, the evidence of things not seen."

*a.* <u>Faith</u> deals with things that are real that have not yet penetrated our five (5) Senses because we haven't seen it yet.

b. <u>Hope</u> is an expectation about the future. An expectation of which you are convinced of, or, convicted about.

- c. Therefore Faith must have Substance.
- d. "Without Faith it is impossible to please God." (Hebrews 11:6)
- e. Faith is Acting like God is telling the truth and then taking Action on it.

#### 3. By Faith We gain Approval:

(Hebrews 11;2) "For by it (faith) the men of old obtained a good testimony."

a. The writer reaches back into the O.T. and he pulls out witnesses from the Old Testament for us New Testament Christians to know that – what worked for them is what we need to work for us!

## 4. Through Faith, We Trust God's Integrity:

(Hebrews 11:3) "By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the Word of God so that what is seen was not made out of things which are visible"

## 5. Application: Jump Blade...Jump!