



### **Part 1: Enoch**

Hebrews 11:1-6

*The foundation of faith is a walking relationship with God.*

“We are living progressively sheltered, sterile, temperature-controlled, overfed, underchallenged, safety-netted lives...[and yet] people today are also suffering more and more from diseases of despair: depression, anxiety, addiction, and suicide.” – Michael Easter, *The Comfort Crisis*

“...an age suffocating in self” – Alicia Cole, *40 Days of Decrease*

So what is the answer? What is the life and faith that God is calling us to?

#### **Hebrews 11 - The ancients of the faith – movie reel of faith**

- A radical hope and trust in Jesus
- Attributes of Faith: hope, trust, righteousness, a with-God life, holy fear, obedience, radical action, heavenly perspective, victory, justice, strength, suffering, and perseverance.

#### **Enoch - Pleased God**

- Hebrews 11:5-6, “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. 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.”

#### **Walking with God**

- It is odd that in Hebrews 11, Enoch is commended for pleasing God. In Genesis it never mentions Enoch pleasing God...unless you look at the Greek Old Testament, Septuagint.

They took the Hebrew idiom, “walks with God” and translated it to “Enoch pleased God.” If we combine them together, we get “The one who walks with God pleases God.” God finds deep pleasure and delight in our company.

“We are never nearer Christ than when we find ourselves lost in a holy amazement at his unspeakable love.” – John Owen, *Commentary to Hebrews*

### **Church in Italy**

- “do not drift away”, “do not shrink back”
- Hebrews 2:1, “We must pay the most careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we do not drift away.”

### **To Walk with God – movement and intimacy**

- Movement: there is action and direction. We are alive with Jesus and going in a direction. Sometimes it might be our way, at other times, His way. Thankfully He is always with us and continually directing us His way.

“Faith never knows where it is being led, but it loves and knows the One who is leading.” – Oswald Chambers

- Intimacy: to walk with is to be next to Jesus, often in conversation, to share company together. The radicalness of this is that the God of the universe, the savior of the world and our very lives is with us.

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. What personal or physical trait(s) distinguish you? How would someone describe you?
2. How do you experience the lullaby of comfort and control in your life in contrast to the faith that God calls us to?
3. How is your walk with Jesus? How are you moving and being intimate with Jesus every day?
4. How do you need to live by faith this week in your life?