September 28, 2008 The Bridge Bible Fellowship Pastor Paul S. Brown Hebrews 11:30

"Jesus Christ is Infinitely Better!" Examples of Faith, Part Twelve: Joshua at Jericho

- I. Jesus Christ: Infinitely Better in His PERSON (1-7)
- II. Jesus Christ: Infinitely Better in His WORK (8:1-10:18)
- III. Christianity: An Infinitely Better WALK OF FAITH (10:19-13:24)
 - A. The Confidence of Faith (10:19-39)
 - B. The Examples of Faith (11)
 - 1. Definition (Description) of Faith (11:1-3): **a) Recognizing** the invisible God; **b) Responding** obediently to God's spoken word; **c) Receiving** God's gracious approval
 - 2. Examples of Faith (11:4-40)
 - a. Abel (v. 4) Faith Worshiping
 - b. Enoch (v. 5-6) Faith Walking
 - c. Noah (v. 7) Faith Working
 - d. Abraham and Sarah Faith Waiting
 - e. Isaac Faith Waiting
 - f. Jacob Faith Waiting
 - g. Joseph Faith Waiting
 - h. Moses' Parents Faith Watching (v. 23)
 - i. Moses Faith Warring (v. 24-29)
 - j. Joshua Faith _____ (v. 30)

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Read Joshua 1:1-9. How does this passage support (agree with) our 3-fold definition of faith from Hebrews 11?
- 2. Read Joshua 3. What did the "ark of the covenant" represent to the Jewish people? What correlation does this have with Joshua 1:1-9 and biblical faith?
- 3. Read Joshua 4. Why did God want them to set up "memorial stones" from the middle of the Jordan at the place where they were going to camp? What impact would this have on the faith of the people? What "memorial stones" can you think of from your past? Make it a practice of sharing them with your family regularly to strengthen their faith.
- 4. Read Joshua 5. Who was the man that Joshua met in this chapter? What is the significance of this meeting prior to conquering the land? How did this strengthen Joshua's faith?
- 5. Read Joshua 6. How many times does the word "ark" appear in this chapter? What is the significance of this? How does this relate to faith? What did this have to do with their victory at Jericho? What does this have to do with our victories in life?
- 6. Where did the children of Israel camp each night during the 7 days of marching around Jericho? What did they come back to see each night at that location? How would that have strengthened their faith? What can we come back to each night after being out in the world to strengthen our faith?
- 7. Was there anything strange (different) about God's approach to defeating Jericho? What do you think the people of Jericho were thinking as they watched this for 7 days? What do you think the Israelites were thinking as they obeyed God's orders for 7 days? What might have gone through your mind if you were in either one of those groups of people?
- 8. Do you ever feel foolish or weird living obediently to what the Lord has said? Do you ever doubt God's methods? What do you do during those times to strengthen your faith and continue to walk in obedience?
- 9. How would this particular story from the Old Testament strengthen the faith of people in the 1st century to persevere in trusting in Jesus alone for salvation?