



FAITH & CHOICES



Connections to God

Hebrews 11

- Faith is the connection to the *bigger world*.
- It is the intersection between the *finite* and *infinite*.
- There are things *unseen* that we have reason to believe in.

- It is so important to understand that faith is not about that which is irrational, it is about that which is *beyond* finite understanding.
- The point here is about *relationship*.
- Faith is *essential* to responding to God's saving love.

- Faith is what God seeks to find at work in us.
- Faith is seeing the bigger reality of God's purposes and power.
- Faith is seeing that there is more at work in any given situation.

- The word heart in the Hebrew culture speaks of one's whole inner disposition.
- There is an unseen realm in the world that's more real than the seen realm.

1. How Fear shapes what is ahead of us.

a. Fear exaggerates our problems.

- Fear will exaggerate the obstacle you face and the limitations you have.
- When you look at your problems with eyes of fear, they get bigger.

b. Fear spreads
discouragement...in us and around
us.

• That is the essence of what discouragement is, it steals courage.

c. Fear can lead to complaining, blaming, and becoming enslaved to *familiarity*.

- This reference to how the people looked back to Egypt has often been noted as one of the most fascinating reflections of how deceiving our *perspectives* can become.

- The truth is that we find comfort in what is *familiar*.