

GOOD FAITH EFFORT

HEBREWS 11:11-12

FEBRUARY 15, 2026







“As the cool stream gushed over one hand she spelled into the other the word water, first slowly, then rapidly. I stood still, my whole attention fixed upon the motions of her fingers. Suddenly I felt a misty consciousness as of something forgotten — a thrill of returning thought; and somehow the mystery of language was revealed to me. I knew then that ‘w-a-t-e-r’ meant the wonderful cool something that was flowing over my hand. That living word awakened my soul, gave it light, hope, joy, set it free!”

(From Helen Keller’s autobiography *The Story of My Life*)



“There were barriers still, it is true, but barriers that could in time be swept away. I left the well-house eager to learn. Everything had a name, and each name gave birth to a new thought. As we returned to the house every object which I touched seemed to quiver with life. That was because I saw everything with the strange, new sight that had come to me.”

(From Helen Keller’s autobiography *The Story of My Life*)



“That word startled my soul, and it awoke, full of the spirit of the morning, full of joyous, exultant song. Until that day my mind had been like a darkened chamber, waiting for words to enter and light the lamp, which is thought.”

(From Helen Keller’s autobiography *The Story of My Life*)





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FEBRUARY 15, 2026

Almost Heroes

Stumbling Through Hebrews 11

Winter 2026

NEW HEIGHTS
CHURCH



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Hebrews 11:11-12 (ESV): “By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. 12 Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

**G^{OO}D
FAITH
EFFORT**

Genesis 15:3-6 (ESV): “And Abram said, ‘Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.’ 4 And behold, the word of the Lord came to him: ‘This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.’ 5 And he brought him outside and said, ‘Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.’

Then he said to him, ‘So shall your offspring be.’ 6 And he believed the Lord, and he counted it to him as righteousness.”

**G^{OO}D
FAITH
EFFORT**

Romans 4:3-5 (ESV): “For what does the Scripture say? ‘Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.’ 4 Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. 5 And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness.”

**G^{OOO}D
FAITH
EFFORT**

John 6:40 (ESV): “For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”

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Genesis 16:2-4 (ESV): “**Sarai said to Abram, ‘Behold now, the Lord has prevented me from bearing children. Go in to my servant; it may be that I shall obtain children by her.’** And Abram listened to the voice of Sarai. **3 So, after Abram had lived ten years in the land of Canaan, Sarai, Abram’s wife, took Hagar the Egyptian, her servant, and gave her to Abram her husband as a wife.**

4 And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived. And when she saw that she had conceived, she looked with contempt on her mistress.”

**G^{OO}D
FAITH
EFFORT**



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Titus 3:5 (ESV): “He saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy.”

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Ephesians 2:8 (ESV): “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.”

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**Romans 9:16 (ESV): “So then it depends
not on human will or exertion, but on
God, who has mercy.”**

**GOOD
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THE ONLY
USEFUL EFFORT

IS A
FRUITFUL EFFORT.



Psalm 127:1 (ESV): “Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labor in vain.”

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John 15:16 (ESV): “I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide.”

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Galatians 3:3 (NLT): “How foolish can you be? After starting your new lives in the Spirit, why are you now trying to become perfect by your own human effort?”

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STOP

ROWING
FRANTICALLY

AND

START

FLOWING
ORGANICALLY.



APPLICATION



GOOD
FAITH
EFFORT



GOOD
FAITH
EFFORT

John 15:4-5 (ESV): “Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”

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Genesis 21:6-7 (ESV): “And Sarah said, ‘God has made laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh over me.’ 7 And she said, ‘Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old **GOOD** age.’”

FAITH
EFFORT

Matthew 11:28 (ESV): “My yoke is easy,
and my burden is light.”

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Stumbling Through Hebrews 11

Next Week:

Hebrews 11:13-22

