

A LIFE WORTH LIVING

Hebrews 11:1 – 12:6




THE FIRM FOUNDATION

Trust in God

The fundamental fact of existence is that this trust in God, this faith, is the firm FOUNDATION under everything that makes life worth living.

It's our handle on what we can't see. The act of faith is what distinguished our ancestors, set them above the crowd. Hebrews 11:1

Matthew 7 ²⁴⁻²⁵ "These words I speak to you are not incidental additions to your life, homeowner improvements to your standard of living. They are FOUNDATIONAL words, words to build a life on.



**From God's point of view, what do you think makes your life worth living?
- not life in general, but your specific life.**



BUILDING ON THE FOUNDATION

Acts of Faith

Hebrews 11 - The Message

Faith in What We Don't See

11¹⁻² The fundamental fact of existence is that this trust in God, **this faith, is the firm foundation under everything that makes life worth living.** It's our handle on what we can't see. The act of faith is what distinguished our ancestors, set them above the crowd.

³ By faith, we see the world called into existence by God's word, what we see created by what we don't see.

⁴ By **an act of faith, Abel brought a better sacrifice to God than Cain.**

It was **what he believed**, not what he *brought*, that made the difference.

That's what **God noticed and approved** as righteous. After all these centuries, that belief continues to catch our notice.

⁵⁻⁶ By **an act of faith, Enoch skipped death completely.** “

They looked all over and couldn't find him because God had taken him.” We know on the basis of reliable testimony that before he was taken “**he pleased God.**” It's impossible to please God apart from faith. And why? Because **anyone who wants to approach God must believe both that he exists and that he cares enough to respond to those who seek him.**

⁷ By **faith, Noah built a ship in the middle of dry land.**

He was warned about something he couldn't see, and acted on what he was told. The result? His family was saved. His act of faith drew a sharp line between the evil of the unbelieving world and the rightness of the believing world. As a result, **Noah became intimate with God.**

⁸⁻¹⁰ By **an act of faith, Abraham said yes to God's call to travel to an unknown place**

that would become his home. When he left he had no idea where he was going.

By an act of faith he lived in the country promised him,

lived as a stranger camping in tents. Isaac and Jacob did the same, living under the same promise. Abraham did it by keeping his eye on an unseen city with real, eternal foundations—the City designed and built by God.

¹¹⁻¹² **By faith, barren Sarah was able to become pregnant,** old woman as she was at the time, because she believed the One who made a promise would do what he said. That's how it happened that from one man's dead and shriveled loins there are now people numbering into the millions.

* * *

¹³⁻¹⁶ Each one of these people of faith died not yet having in hand what was promised, but still believing.

How did they do it? They saw it way off in the distance, waved their greeting, and accepted the fact that they were transients in this world.

People who live this way

make it plain that they are looking for their true home.

If they were homesick for the old country, they could have gone back any time they wanted.

But they were after a far better country than that—*heaven* country.

You can see why **God is so proud of them,** and has a City waiting for them.

¹⁷⁻¹⁹ **By faith,** Abraham, at the time of testing, offered Isaac back to God. Acting in faith, he was as ready to return the promised son, his only son, as he had been to receive him—and this after he had already been

An act of faith:

. . . is something that you do to demonstrate to God that you believe what God has said.

Bob Warriner

. . . can be done by anyone.

**Do you have a favourite 'hero'.
What act of faith inspires you?
What acts of faith have you done?**

TAKING ACTION

*12 ¹⁻² **Do you see what this means**—all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it.*

Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins.

Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in.

Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—

1 Strip down

Ruthlessly eliminate hurry

❖ **Hurry vs busy**

❖ **The cost of hurrying**

❖ **Amy Carmichael**

Am I single-hearted?

Have I allowed the complexity of my life and the notification on my phone to crowd out God's presence and drown out his still small voice

2 Spend Time with God where we learn

- ❖ . . . to be still and to know God
All my achievements will mean nothing on that day when Jesus looks me in the eye with a single question: Did we know each other? Pete Greig`
- ❖ . . . to recognise God's voice
- ❖ . . . we are loved and accepted as we are
- ❖ . . . we find healing for our wounds
- ❖ . . . we learn God's priorities for our lives

3 Admit our sins and weaknesses

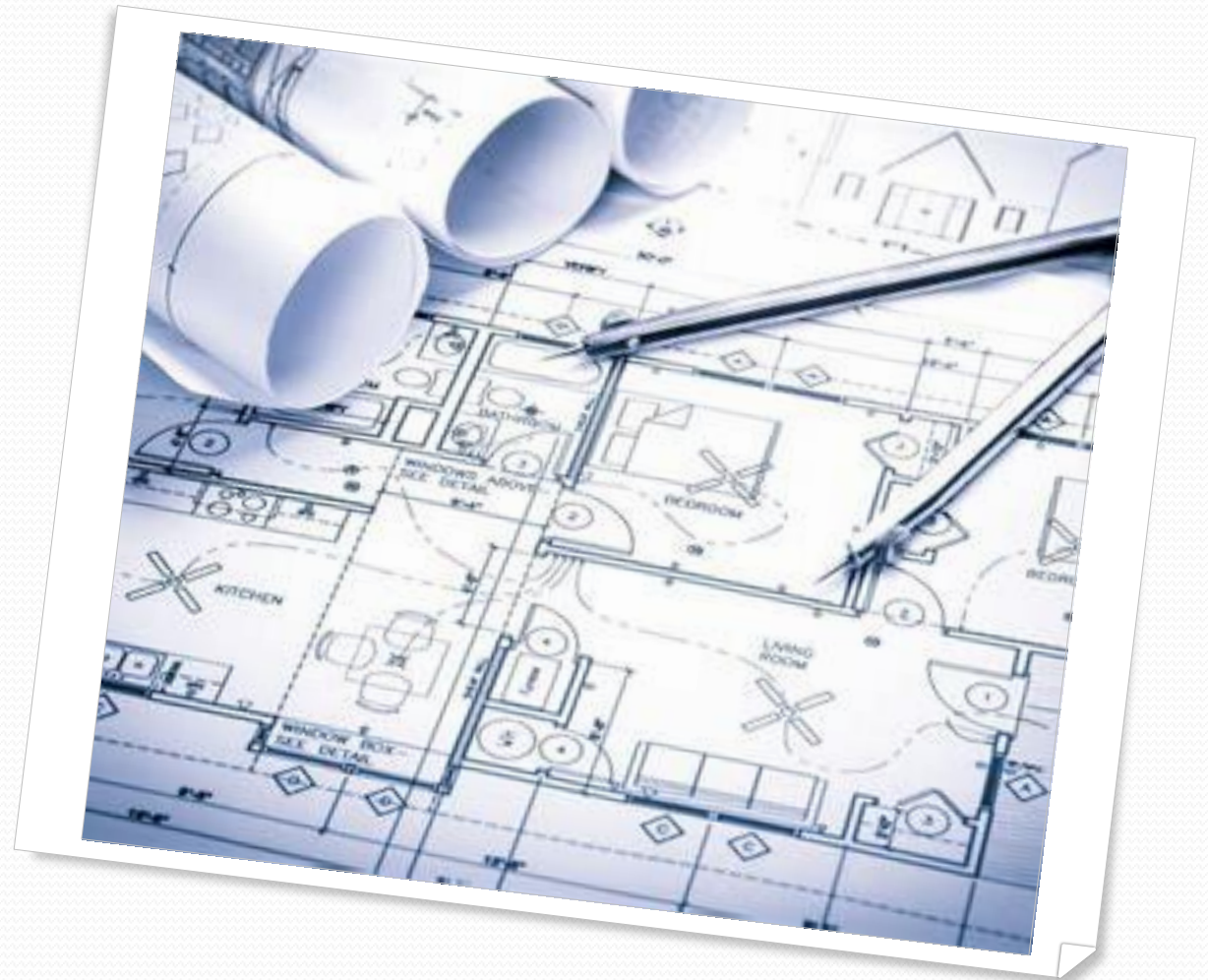
Barriers

- ❖ Fear
- ❖ Shame
- ❖ Trivialising the issue
- ❖ Pride

Benefits

- ❖ Forgiveness
- ❖ A clear conscience
- ❖ A fresh start


**Begin
with the
end in
mind**



RULE OF LIFE CHART


GOALS	Be With Jesus		Become Like Jesus			Do What Jesus Did	
Practices	Abiding	Mind	Body	Relation- ships	Rest	Work & Money	Gospel & Hospitality
Daily							
Weekly							
Monthly							
Quarterly							
Annually							

<https://practicingthewayarchives.org/unhurrying-with-a-rule-of-life/workbook>



**“Today if we hear Your voice
We will soften our hearts
and we will be willing and obedient
In the day of trial in the wilderness.
We will let you test us and try us
And we will behold Your great works.
Therefore, You will be pleased
With this generation, and will say of us**

“



**‘They follow Me closely in their heart,
They have perceived and recognized My ways.
They have progressively become
more intimately acquainted with Me.
Therefore, I make an oath
In My great joy and delight,
‘They shall enter into My rest.’“**

Reversal of Hebrews 3 by Mercy Aiken