Message: "Faith That Lasts"

Scripture: Hebrews 11:8-19

(09-17-23 Pastor Tony Hao)

What does it take to have faith that lasts, like that bunny in the TV commercial that just keeps going ... and going ... and going?

Hebrews 11 tells us of men and women who pleased God because their faith just kept going ... and going. It is faith that believes God wants to use us to make a difference in this world. It is faith that is courageous to take risks for God. It is faith that trusts God to provide for all our needs. It is faith that chooses to obey God, even when we don't understand what He is doing. It is faith that believes God brings out good even from the worst of circumstances.

That's it! Faith that lasts keeps trusting even though we don't know the where, the how, the when, and the why. The reason it lasts is because it knows the Who. If your faith is grounded firmly on God who is faithful, who is able, and more importantly who loves you, then it will last.

GROWING DEEPER (Reflection & Application)

- 1. What does Abraham's willingness to follow God's instruction to leave everything behind reveal regarding the true source of faith?
- 2. If Kevin and Lisa were to ask your advice on whether they should close their Chinese restaurant on Sundays (as they felt led by God), what would you say?
- 3. Does God seem to be "too slow" in your life? What should we do when we feel "God doesn't seem to be in a hurry"?
- 4. Pastor Tony reminds that "God allows us to be placed in circumstances that challenge our very faith in Him." How would you respond when God asks, "How much do you trust Me?"
- 5. If lasting faith depends on "the Who", what should you do differently to cultivate an intimate and vibrant relationship with God?