

**Series: Champion For God (4/15/18)**

**Title: The “Other” Side of Faith**

**Text: (Heb 11:32-40)**

*Vs 32 And what shall I more say?*

Let's talk about the Champions of Old!  
*for the time would fail me to tell of...*

You know their stories

**Gideon** -Champion of Overwhelming Odds  
**Barak,** -Champion of Follow Through  
**Samson,** -Champion of Failure  
**Jephthae;** -Champion of Personal Sacrifice  
**David,** -Champion of Personal Encouragement  
**Samuel,** -Champion of Service

*and of the prophets:*

**Joshua** - Champion of Victory  
**Ruth** - Champion of Choice  
**Nehemiah** - Champion of Building  
**Esther** - Champion of Intercession  
**Job** -Champion of Patience in Personal Loss  
**Isaiah** - Champion of Messianic Prophecy  
**Jeremiah** - Champion of Faithfulness  
**Daniel** - Champion of Prayer  
**3 Hebrews-** Champion of Standing Alone  
**Peter** - Champion of Boldness  
**John** - Champion of Revelation  
**Paul** - Champion of Evangelism  
**Barnabas** - Champion of Encouragement

**Mary Magdalene** - Champion of Devotion  
**Pricilla & Aquilla** - Champion of Ministry  
**Jesus Christ** - Champion of Love

We Know their stories, or we should.

The recipients of the Book of Hebrews surely did.

(Heb 11:33) ***Who through faith*** (Heb 10:38)  
*subdued kingdoms, David overthrew the Philistines.*  
*wrought righteousness,*  
*obtained promises,*  
*stopped the mouths of lions, Daniel Illegally prayed*

(Heb 11:34)

*Quenched the violence of fire (3 Hebrew Children)*  
*escaped the edge of the sword, (Elijah)*  
*out of weakness were made strong, (Elisha)*  
*waxed valiant in fight, (Joshua)*  
*turned to flight the armies of the aliens. (Jepthae)*

(Heb 11:35) *Women received their dead raised to life again: (The Widow of Zeraphath) (1 Kings 17:17-24)*

Oh what Victory!

Oh What Miracles!

Oh What Glory!

This is what a Champion os supposed to be like!

(1 Chron 19:13) *Be of good courage, and let us behave ourselves valiantly for our people, and for the*

*cities of our God: and let the LORD do that which is good in his sight.*

*(Ps 60:12) Through God we shall do valiantly: for he it is that shall tread down our enemies.*

***Oh but Wait! Here comes the “Other” side of Faith.***

*(Heb 11:35b) and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance; that they might obtain a better resurrection:*

*(Heb 11:36) And others had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:*

*(Heb 11:37) They were stoned, they were sawn asunder,* (Stephen Acts 7)  
(Isaiah’s death)

*were tempted,* (Peter & the Apostles: Acts 5:29)

*were slain with the sword:* (James killed by Herod)  
(Acts 12:1-2)

*they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;* (FBC Jerusalem)  
(Acts 8:1,3)

*(Heb 11:38) (Of whom the world was not worthy;) they wandered in deserts, and in mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.*

To us, Sacrifice, is being without WIFI, or Cel Service  
Sacrifice is having to train our kids to sit still in the service b/c there is no children’s class.

Sacrifice is not having a specific ministry to meet my specific demographic.

Sacrifice is having to ... (You fill in the blank)

*(Heb 11:39) And these all, having obtained a good report* (What does that mean?)

God thought highly of them.

God spoke of them favorably of them, because they chose Him over Themselves.

LGBTQ:

I love God, but I don’t see what’s wrong with it.

This is who I am.

I can’t help who I am attracted too.

What if I had attraction/ feelings/ desires for the women I met at the Grocery Store?

What if I chose to fulfill my desires with her?

I am made this way.

This is who I am.

Everybody ought to just accept it, including God

Well, You made a commitment to Miss Sara. True.

But we all made a commitment to Jesus @salvation.

***Well, I will choose for myself.*** I will Worship myself.

You are now quoting your father the devil.  
(John 8:44) *Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do...*

I Wills of Satan

(Is 14:11-14\*) *I shall be like the most High!*

***We all made a commitment to Jesus @salvation.***

(Mark 8:34-35) ... *Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.*

### ***3 Conditions of Our Commitment***

1. *Let him deny himself:*

We must surrender ourselves to Him Completely

2. *Take up his cross:*

We must identify with Him in sufferings & death.

3. *Follow me:*

We must follow Him obediently, wherever He leads.

*35 For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it.*

Why was the World not worthy of them being in it?  
(Heb 11:38) ***(Of whom the world was not worthy:)***

***What made them a Champion?***

**By Faith, They Chose God instead of Themselves.**

(Heb 11:39) *And these all, having obtained a good report **through faith**, received not the promise:*

(Heb 11:40) *God having provided some **better thing for us**, that they without us should not be made perfect.*

Gedeon, Barak, Samson, Jephthae; David, Samuel, and the prophets:

None of them had the Indwelling Holy Spirit ...

To Bear witness to our spirit.

To Commune with the Spirit of God.

To Empower through Grace for Eternal Life.

To Empower through Grace to Obey.

What Possible Excuse can we give for not living victoriously over sin as a Champion for God?

**What If, God chose the Other Side of Faith for you?**

Stephen was stoned,

Matthew was slain in Ethiopia,

Mark dragged through the streets until dead,

Luke hanged, Peter & Simeon were crucified,

Andrew tied to a cross,

James the son of Zebadee was beheaded by Herod,

Philip crucified & stoned, Bartholomew flayed alive,  
Thomas pierced with lances,  
James, the less, thrown from the temple & beaten to  
death, Jude shot to death with arrows,  
Matthias stoned to death,  
Paul beheaded.

55 Million Martyrs from 100Ad till now.  
Foxe's Book of Martyrs.  
Jesus Freaks Vol 1 & 2

Balthazar Hubmaier, burned at the stake in Vienna.  
March 10, 1528,  
He suffered torture on the rack, and was tried for  
heresy and convicted. On 10 March 1528, he was  
taken to the public square and executed by burning.

3 days later, his wife, was bound with a stone around  
her neck, and drowned in the Danube River.

Felix Manz, On 7 March 1526, In Zürich, was cast  
into the waters at the lake of Lucerne, and drowned.

***What If, God chose the Other Side of Faith for you?***

Are they just "Unfriended on FaceBook"

Is that what persecution is?

What have you had to "Give Up" for Christ?

What has your Eternal Life cost you?

Coptic Christians in Lybia, Egypt, Pakistan.