



**I dreamed a dream in times gone by  
When hope was high and life worth  
living  
I dreamed that love would never die  
I dreamed that God would be  
forgiving  
Then I was young and unafraid  
And dreams were made and used  
and wasted  
There was no ransom to be paid**

## Closing the Gap:

*Where am I?  
Where do I want to be?*



**Heb. 11:4-6 By faith Abel offered God a better sacrifice than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead. By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.**



# Three faith stories



**Gen. 4:3-7 In the course of time Cain brought some of the fruits of the soil as an offering to the LORD. But Abel brought fat portions from some of the firstborn of his flock. The LORD looked with favor on Abel and his offering, but on Cain and his offering he did not look with favor. So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast. Then the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why is your face downcast? If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it.”**



**Isa. 1:11 “The multitude of your sacrifices — what are they to me?” says the LORD. “I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats.**



**"He is no fool who gives what he  
cannot keep to gain what he cannot  
lose."**

**Jim Elliott**





**Heb. 11:5 By faith Enoch was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, he was commended as one who pleased God.**

**Gen. 5:23-24 Altogether, Enoch lived 365 years. Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him away.**



**Deut. 30:15-16 “See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in his ways, and to keep his commands ... and the LORD your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess.”**





## **Three things about Enoch:**

1. He walked with God
2. He escaped the dying process
3. God commended him



**Heb. 11:6 "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."**



- 1. All possible things are possible for God**
- 2. If we are going experience him we must first believe he exists**
- 3. Then we must believe he actually responds to those who seek him**



**Gal. 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.**



- 1. All possible things are possible for God**
- 2. If we are going experience him we must first believe he exists**
- 3. Then we must believe he actually responds to those who seek him**



**Gal. 6:9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.**



**Heb. 11:6 "And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him."**





**It is impossible to please God without faith, because it is impossible to be pleased with God without faith.**



**Isa. 1:18 “Come now, let us reason together,” says the LORD. “Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.”**