



**Key Passage:** Hebrews 11:1-7

**Core Truth:** Our belief in God must go beyond information to devotion.

- ⏪ Faith **receives** God's Word ("Noah... being warned by God v.6)
- ⏪ Faith **obeys** God's word ("Noah... in reverent fear" v. 7)
- ⏪ Faith **perseveres** (Noah built for 20 – 120 years cf. Genesis 5-9)
- ⏪ Faith **influences** ("Noah... for the saving of his household " v. 42)

**Prompt:** Faith requires sacrifice. Throughout the Bible, God's people gave up land, wealth, relationships, and personal comfort to show their devotion. You might pick several characters (see Hebrews 11) and tell what they sacrificed. Share a personal sacrifice. Ask for a testimony. Then set the stage for Afshin Ziafat, who will tell of his devotion as a former-Muslim and follower of Jesus.

**Play:** Video of Afshin Ziafat, "I Am Devoted" [www.buildmomentum.org/resources.html](http://www.buildmomentum.org/resources.html)

**Process:** Select from the following questions to help students **remember**, **rekindle** and **reengage**.

- ⏪ Afshin opened by stressing sacrificial devotion. "The call of Christ in your life is not just mentally believing the right things about Jesus. But believing the right things would call you to devotion – to let go and lay down our lives and take up our cross."
- ⏪ **Reread Matthew 10:32-39.** Jesus' call to devotion meant family life might be disrupted. Perhaps Afshin's story is more dramatic than your students but ask for testimonies of rejection or being disowned. **How did Afshin explain this idea of "hating" family?**
- ⏪ **Reread Hebrews 11:6-7** (cf. Genesis 6-7)
- ⏪ **What are the four elements of Noah's devoted faith?**
- ⏪ God's word initiates His work in and through us. It's called a "spiritual seed" and "food" intended to nourish and mature us (see 1 Peter 1:22-2:3). **What is the result when we know God's word but fail to obey God's word (see Hebrews 5:11-14)?**
- ⏪ Afshin called the ark an outward manifestation of the inner reality of faith. **What did he mean by that? What "arks" have you built and how have others responded to them?**
- ⏪ One year after persevering through the darkest time of his life, God used Afshin's devotion to win his Muslim brother to Jesus. **How has God used your devotion in darkness for His good?**
- ⏪ "You don't save your friends and family, but you influence them," Afshin said. **Why is this distinction important? What may happen if we treat salvation as our job, not God's?**
- ⏪ As he closed Afshin contrasted Noah with Lot and Event-Oriented Christians with Daily-Devoted Christians. **How is your faith doing since your last Christian event?**

**Pray:** Have students group up. Encourage them to share about people and places where they are trying to show their devotion to God. Ask students to pray for day-to-day boldness in following Christ.