



# Owosso Church of the Nazarene

*Our mission is to attract and lead people to Christ,  
develop them toward maturity in Christ,  
equip them for ministry, and empower them through  
the Holy Spirit for a life mission in the world.*

April 7, 2008

Dear Family & Friends,

Almost every sport has a hall of fame—a place honoring extraordinary achievers for their diligence and dedication. The Bible Hall of Fame is Hebrews 11. As you walk these hallowed halls of Scripture, you find people who were willing to take giant leaps into the arms of God for exciting journeys into the unknown.

Abraham is a member of the Bible Hall of Fame. “By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going” (Hebrews 11:8).

Over the doorpost of Faith’s Hall of Fame is inscribed, “Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see” (v. 1). Abraham walked through that door. He had to risk something in order to gain everything.

In the world’s economy, financial and physical risks often end in failure. In God’s economy, spiritual risks always end with reward. Jesus promised, “Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well” (Matthew 6:33).

Over the next few weeks, we’re going to take an exciting risk! Together, we’re going to walk through the door of faith. We’re going to stake our claim in the land of God’s promises. We’re going to discover some exciting and rewarding principles for growing the church, and growing our own spiritual lives. We’re going to go *Forward in Faith*. How? By learning to:

- **F**ocus on the needs of others in *friendship*
- **A**cknowledge the gifts of God’s people in *partnership*
- **I**nvest in the building of the Kingdom through *stewardship*
- **T**each the word of life through *discipleship*
- **H**onor God through passionate *worship*

If this sounds life-changing and revolutionary, it is! The principles we’ll share together will change your *heart*, your *home*, and our *church*.

This week I’m going to challenge you to walk through the door of faith in a special message focusing on the future. You’ll learn how to see things through God’s eyes instead of the way the world sees. You’ll learn how to take a risk—a giant leap into the arms of God for an exciting spiritual journey. Please join me in worship as we move *Forward in Faith*!

Serving Christ and His Church,

Pastor Rodger D. De Vore

**Rodger D. De Vore, Lead Pastor**  
**Marlene Webster, Community & Family Formation Pastor**  
**Murphy Gill, Worship Arts Pastor**  
**Craig Moore, Student Life Pastor**  
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