



NAC-USA
DEVELOPMENT
INSTITUTE

Will He find
faith?

Faith made
visible

Faith:
Trained and
Tested

Faith at work

MIDWEEK GUIDE

2018

August

The consensus among most modern scholars is that the author of the letter to the Hebrews is unknown. However, we do know the letter was written before A.D. 70.

2018 August MIDWEEK GUIDE

Session 1: Will He find faith?

1. What is your faith based on?

2. What does it mean to *live by faith*? Can you give some examples?

3. Is faith a spectrum that we can have a little or a lot of? Or is it all or nothing?

4. What are some adversaries that you are fighting against? How do you battle against and defend your faith when the spiritual currents of our time attack your belief?

5. Why is perseverance such an important quality of our faith?

6. The video quotes Ephesians 2:8, saying, *For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is a gift of God.* Have you thought of faith as a gift before? How would you explain faith as a gift?

7. Describe how you've come to have faith in God. Was it over the course of time or a pivotal "ah ha" moment?

8. Imagine that you are sitting on an airplane and the stranger seated next to you asks you to tell them about your faith in Christ. What would you say?

Bible References

Hebrews 10:32-34, 37-39

Luke 18:1-8

Session 2: Faith made visible

1. Discuss and rewrite the definition of faith in Hebrews 11:1 in your own words.

2. What is the difference between a visible faith to the institutional church and a visible faith to God? Where do they overlap?

3. How is your faith visible to those who are closest to you and those you don't know well? What is the evidence of your faith?

4. Of the heroes of faith mentioned in the video, which one made the largest impression on you? Why? How can their story help you live out your story?

5. The video said, "Faith makes people act differently than those around them." Why is this so?

6. In what ways can you relate your journey of faith to the journey of the Israelites in the wilderness?

7. Why must faith be patient?

8. How does the 11th chapter of Hebrews teach us about God's faithfulness? How does your life demonstrate that God is faithful to you?

Bible References

Hebrews 11

1 Corinthians 10:13

Session 3: Faith: Trained and Tested

1. Why does God allow our faith to be tested?

2. How have afflictions and suffering served to strengthen your faith and deepen your relationship with God?

3. At different points in life, it may seem like you are faced with continuous challenges that cause pain and trouble. As your faith is being tested in those moments, how can you protect your faith and, in-turn, use those times to edify others?

4. What experiences weaken faith? What experiences strengthen faith?

5. Have you ever felt disciplined by God? What did the experience teach you about your relationship with God?

6. What things in your life serve to separate you from God? How can you put away those things so they do not hinder your relationship with Him?

7. Is it possible to truly want your faith to grow, but not be willing to be tested?

Bible References

Hebrews 12:1-3, 5-13

Session 4: Faith at work

1. What were the three expressions of faith that the video talked about? How does the Holy Spirit help you develop and put into action these three aspects of faith in your life today?

2. In what areas of your life today do you need to look to Jesus and engage your faith?

3. How could serving someone with a loving attitude lead to you really loving them? Have you ever tried it?

4. How is the commitment to keeping your promises an expression of faith?

5. Do you recall from last year's Pentecost message the idea of "serene composure"? How can we have such a composure in moments of struggle and hardship?

6. Faith is a very personal thing, but how can it be shared or experienced in the congregation?

7. Who are those in your family/congregation/community that others would consider “forgotten by society”? How does the Holy Spirit help you see people through the lens of faith? How can you, or your small group, demonstrate love for them?

8. Think of ways that you can support the leaders in your congregation, and commit to doing one this week. (Ideas: Write out a prayer and give it to them, write them a note of affirmation where you see them using the gifts that God has given them, ask if there is something you can take off their plate, etc.)

Bible References

Hebrews 13:1-7, 17

Matthew 26:39