

Sermon Based Small Group Guide

May 12, 2019 sermon:

Hebrews: Jesus is Greater "The kind of faith God rewards"

Warm up: (15-20 minutes)

Questions for discussion:

- 1.) Mother's Day weekend! Do you have a favorite story about your mom or about being a mom? This is a safe space to tell a non-flattering mom story too!
- 2.) For the second week in a row, our sermon application was the statement that "faith is trusting God enough to do what he says." We all have had different experiences with trust and have certain levels of mistrust in different areas. Which of the following would you have trouble trusting the most: -Parachute - Airplane - Food truck food -Elevator -Bungee cord -Unfamiliar cat or dog -Used car salesman

Digging deeper: (20-30 minutes)

1. Faith must be much more than just a belief or understanding of God, it must be an action. As we look at the life of Jesus and watch the calls he made to the crowds following him, we get a better understanding of what faith in action looks like. The next four passages give examples of Jesus calling his followers to action. Read through each and answer the questions following.

Matthew 16:24-25 1- What does this mean to you? 2- How have you lived it out?

Mark 9:35 1- How does this confront the way our society things?

Matthew 28:2-3 1- What is Jesus key point? 2- What is good "childlike" behavior?

Luke 18:9-14 1- What is wrong with self-righteousness? 2- Is humility easy? Explain.

2. We need to remember that being right with God...called it "saved" if you want to...has ALWAYS come as a result of faith. (Believing God enough to do what He says!) It is likely that the "Hall of Faith" in Hebrews 11 is to drive that point home...NOT to show us how amazing their faith was. Read and discuss these Scriptures to drive that point home. Galatians 3:6 John 3:16 Galatians 2:16 1 John 2:3-6

3. We struggle to both BELIEVE and OBEY! This is why we need the Holy Spirit. Read and discuss how Galatians 2:20, Galatians 5:16-18 and Galatians 22-23 can help you understand how to rely on God's power to respond differently? How can we balance relying on God's power while still maintaining personal responsibility?

Application: (5-10 minutes) Share how your understanding of "faith" is either being challenged or reinforced in our study of Hebrews 11. Close in prayer together.