LIVING A LIFE OF COURAGE, IDENTITY, FOCUS, DELIVERANCE

Hebrews 11:23-40

- We may not always be able to see when, where, or how God is working, but faith is how we can trust in the unseen.
- Victories in this life are great, but none are sufficient to save us for eternity; Jesus provides a better resurrection.

FAITH IN THE LORD DEVELOPS COURAGE TO FOLLOW HIM

"By faith Moses, after he was born, was hidden by his parents for three months, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they didn't fear the king's edict. 24 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter 25 and chose to suffer with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasure of sin. 26 For he considered reproach for the sake of Christ to be greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, since he was looking ahead to the reward.

27 By faith he left Egypt behind, not being afraid of the king's anger, for Moses persevered as one who sees him who is invisible. 28 By faith he instituted the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn might not touch the Israelites. 29 By faith they crossed the Red Sea as though they were on dry land. When the Egyptians attempted to do this, they were drowned." (Hebrews 11:23-29)

• "Faith looks not only to the future promises, but also to the present reality of God's power." - Gareth Lee Cockerill

FAITH-FILLED BELIEVERS IDENTIFY WITH GOD'S PEOPLE

"By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter 25 and chose to suffer with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasure of sin. 26 For he considered reproach for the sake of Christ to be greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, since he was looking ahead to the reward." (Hebrews 11:24-26)

 Our commitment to Jesus should be reflected in how we identify with the family of God over the people and ways of the world.

WE CAN WALK COURAGEOUSLY FAITHFUL WITH THE LORD WHEN WE <u>FOCUS</u> ON OUR <u>ETERNAL REWARD</u>

"...since he was looking ahead to the reward." (Hebrews 11:26)

 The temptation to fixate on our struggles in this life will lead us to despair, but fixing our eyes on the promise of eternity with Jesus is the key to overcoming whatever we face.

GOD IS A DELIVERER FOR HIS FAITHFUL

"By faith they crossed the Red Sea as though they were on dry land. When the Egyptians attempted to do this, they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after being marched around by the Israelites for seven days. 31 By faith Rahab the prostitute welcomed the spies in peace and didn't perish with those who disobeyed." (Hebrews 11:29-31)

- Hebrews 11:32-40
- While some experience deliverance in the here and now from some struggles, ALL those who put their faith in Jesus Christ for their salvation will be ultimately delivered when they leave this earth.

CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION

Observation

- What specific actions of faith are highlighted in Moses' life (vv. 23–29)?
- According to verse 26, what motivated Moses to endure suffering instead of choosing the treasures of Egypt?
- What do verses 39–40 teach us about the promises of God for those who lived by faith?

Understanding

- Moses' parents risked their lives to protect him. Where do you see
 God calling you to step out in courage right now?
- Moses chose to suffer with God's people rather than enjoy temporary pleasures in Pharaoh's palace. What does it look like in today's culture to identify with God's people instead of the world?
- When has following Jesus cost you something in relationships, reputation, or opportunities? Was it worth it?
- Moses endured because he was "looking ahead to the reward."
 What helps you keep your eyes fixed on eternity when life feels heavy or discouraging?
- The Red Sea crossing and Jericho's walls falling were dramatic examples of God's deliverance. Where have you seen God deliver you or someone you know from a difficult situation?
- Hebrews 11 reminds us that some experienced miracles, while others suffered greatly but still held onto faith. How does this challenge or encourage you in your current struggles?

Loving Outward:

- Who do you need to share the gospel with this week?
- Who do you need to follow-up with regarding the gospel?
- Who are you bringing to church next Sunday?