

THE TAKE AWAY

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Sunday, October 24, 2021

Message Summary

In this week's message, Pastor John Carter taught us that to please God we must learn how to walk by faith, not merely by sight. Faith is the foundational truth that we begin our walk with God with as believers. The Bible tells us that once we are saved, we are each given a measure of faith – a measure of faith that is sufficient to accomplish all God has called you to do, according to the grace and gifts He has deposited into your life (Eph. 2:8). Faith doesn't just help you get saved; it is available to you to help you navigate the life God has called you to live as a believer. But how does faith come and how does it grow in your life? It comes by **hearing** the word of God. The Word of God is full of a capacity for you to believe it. God's Spirit is present with the Word to impart faith to the person who hears it. The Word brings faith! But you have to be careful that as you grow in your faith, and learn to ask in faith, that you do not entertain fear or doubt. Fear can undermine your faith, if you let it. You have to guard your faith, and fight back the doubts that are born out of the distractions of this world. This is why you have to sit under the anointed teaching of the Word of God. It will help you to grow in your faith! Fill your heart, your home, fill your life with God's Word and faith will come.

Key Scriptures:

- **[Romans 12:3 NKJV]** 3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a **measure of faith**.
- **[Romans 10:17 NKJV]** 17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
- **[James 1:5-8 NKJV]** 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

Discussion Questions:

1. How does faith come according to the Bible?
2. Why do you think the Word of God builds your faith?
3. Why is doubt so dangerous to your faith?
4. How do you combat doubt?

Life Application:

This week as you study the key scriptures, consider what Pastor John said, "If you are in doubt, or driven and tossed by fear, don't think that you will receive anything by faith. God requires us to stay in faith without allowing the circumstances of life distract our faith." Examine your life. Is there any area of your life where you are trying to stand in faith, but are really entertaining doubts? You have to address and correct those doubts with God's Word. Speak to those doubts and say, "But God's Word says..." As you do this, your faith will grow and you can push back your doubts. Choose to root your faith strongly in the promises of God's Word.