



Summer at Parkview - Week 3

July 13-14, 2019 | Pastor Todd Clark

This weekend, Pastor Todd addresses what it means to have faith even when we can't clearly see God's provision on the other side.

CELEBRATE

At the beginning of your small group time, it's good to share about your week and share with each other how you're doing. So, spend some time, right now, connecting before jumping into the discussion questions. You can use the *Connect* section as a guide. If you're doing this Study Guide on your own, take a moment to focus your mind on God and what He might want you to hear today.

CONNECT

1. Think about a place your parents would make you go with them, or thing they made you do with them, that you always dreaded growing up. Share the place or the thing that comes to mind.
2. Talk about the craziest step of faith you've ever taken. Maybe it was a new place, job or relationship. What was that experience like?

Before watching the sermon, or moving on in this study, take a minute to remember that God is always with you. Pray as a group for God to bless your conversation and open your eyes and hearts to what He wants you to hear.

REFLECT

Before moving forward in your study, take a moment and review the key points from this weekend's message.

1. Sometimes God calls us to take steps of faith that can appear a bit crazy.

2. Faith explodes when our obedience intersects with God's provision.
3. Only God can see both sides of the mountain.
4. Faith means following God obediently, even before the provision is seen.
5. God meets obedient people on top of the mountain.

SCRIPTURES USED IN THE MESSAGE: Genesis 22:1-14

RESPOND

1. Talk about a thought, phrase, or moment from this weekend's message that really struck you. Share why it stuck out to you.
2. Take a few minutes and think of a time you felt like Abraham - a time it felt as though God had you climb a mountain and trust in Him. Did you find it easy or challenging to have faith through that circumstance? Share why.
3. Read Daniel 3:8-18. Read out loud if possible, and make a note of words or phrases that stand out to you. Specially re-read verses 17 and 18. We step into this story as these three men refuse to bow down a false god, which angers the king. Note the boldness and confidence of these men - declaring that God has the power to save them from the furnace, but they'll trust Him even if He doesn't. Sounds a bit like Abraham's statement in Genesis 22:8. How would you describe the faith of these people in these two different stories?
4. It's not always easy to go through challenging situations like these. Yet God sometimes allows us to *climb the mountain* or *go through the flames*. Why do you think God does this?
5. The truth is, God's provision doesn't always look or feel like the provisions seen in Genesis or Daniel. We can sometimes pray or hope for God to do things - like pull us out of the *fiery furnace* - but be left without the provision we hoped for. Talk about a time God didn't do what you wanted Him to do.
6. We see God deliver Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in Daniel 3:24-25. Similarly, God delivers ram to Abraham, sparing Isaac. Share a time you saw God provide for you when you remained obedient to Him - even if it wasn't exactly what you expected from Him.
7. Take a look at James 2:14-17. Read the verses slowly and out loud. Pastor Todd said, "God still meets obedient people on top of mountains." Often times, faith requires action on our part. What is one way that you could take a step of obedience this week as you continue to climb your *mountain*.

Closing Prayer:

God, thank you for allowing us to go through things that help us grow. We ask that you would give us wisdom to discern how to see the ways you're working, even when we might not know why. We pray that you would show us ways in these next few weeks to take massive steps of faith in you. And, as we step in faith, we pray that you would give us peace, strength, courage

and confidence to know how great and powerful you are.

Amen.