



Discipleship Guide

Sermon: Measuring Faith | Lent Series | Week 3
Speaker: Pastor John Eric Zayas

Date: March 15th, 2026

Discipleship Guide – “Measuring Faith” (John 12:37-50)

Core Idea

Faith is not measured by what we receive from Jesus, but by our **zeal to stand, remain, and truly know Him**. God is calling us from the crowd into a deep relationship.

Opening Reflection

Many people filled the crowd around Jesus—witnessing miracles, hearing truth, even experiencing power—yet still missing Him.

Question:

Are you following Jesus for what He provides, or for who He is?

Key Teaching Points

1. Faith That Stands

- True faith is **unmoved, unshaken, not built on sinking sand**
- Circumstances don't determine commitment—**zeal does**

 Supporting Scripture: Matthew 7:24–27

Discuss:

- What currently tests your ability to stand firm?
 - Where have you been tempted to “shift” instead of remain?
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2. From Crowd to Covenant

- The crowd wanted provision, not relationship
- They saw signs—but still didn't believe

- You can be *around Jesus* and still not *with Him*

 Supporting Scripture: Matthew 7:22–23

Discuss:

- What does it look like to “perform Christianity” without knowing Jesus?
 - Where might you be prioritizing what God gives over who He is?
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3. Hungry for More Than Surface-Level Faith

- We were designed for **depth, intimacy, and connection**
- Surface-level faith cannot sustain you in real trials

Discuss:

- What does “surface-level faith” look like in your life?
 - What would deeper hunger for God require from you?
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4. The Bride and the Bridegroom

- The church is not a crowd—we are the **bride**
- The relationship between bride and groom is **intimate, unique, and incomprehensible to outsiders**

 Supporting Scripture: Ephesians 5:25–27

Discuss:

- How does viewing yourself as the bride change your relationship with Jesus?
- What does loving Jesus “in a way the world doesn’t understand” look like?

5. Choose God

- Despite everything they saw, many still didn't believe
- Faith is a **choice**, not just an experience

 Supporting Scripture: Isaiah 53

Declaration:

"I choose God. I choose truth. I choose relationship over convenience."

Practice This Week

- Spend **intentional time with Jesus daily** (not asking—just being)
 - Ask: *"God, show me who You are—not just what You can do"*
 - Identify one area where you need to **stand firm** and commit it to Him
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Closing Prayer

Jesus,

I don't want to just be in the crowd—I want to know You.

Teach me to stand when it's hard, to love You beyond what You give, and to hunger for more than surface-level faith.

I choose You—fully, deeply, and without condition.

Amen.

5-Day Devotional: “Unmoved”

Day 1: Built to Stand

 Matthew 7:24–27

Faith that lasts is built on obedience, not emotion.

Reflect:

What is your faith built on right now?

Prayer:

God, make me steady, not seasonal.

Day 2: More Than Miracles

 John 12:37

Even after signs, some still didn't believe.

Reflect:

Have you reduced God to what He can do for you?

Prayer:

Jesus, help me see You clearly—not just Your works.

Day 3: Known by God

 Matthew 7:22–23

It's possible to do things *for* Jesus and still not know Him.

Reflect:

Do you know Jesus—or just know about Him?

Prayer:

I want relationship, not performance.

Day 4: The Bride's Love

 Ephesians 5:25

This love is deep, personal, and set apart.

Reflect:

What would it look like to love Jesus intimately?

Prayer:

Teach me to love You in a way the world doesn't understand.

Day 5: Choose Him Again

 John 12:44–46

Faith is a daily decision.

Reflect:

Where do you need to choose God today?

Prayer:

I choose You again—no matter what.