For Class Interaction and Discussion

Lesson Outline

1. Introduction:

- Understanding Faith and Its Importance in Hebrews

2. Faith of Isaac:

- Trusting God Amidst Mistakes

3. Faith of Jacob:

- A Journey from Deception to Redemption

4. Faith of Joseph:

- Anticipating God's Promises

Thought Questions for Discussion

1. Introduction:

- a. How do you define faith?
- b. Why is it significant that the writer of Hebrews emphasizes faith throughout history, not just in the New Testament era?

2. Isaac:

- a. How does Isaac's life compare to that of his father Abraham?
- b. In what ways did Isaac demonstrate faith, and in what situations did he falter?
- c. Why do you think God continued to bless Isaac despite his imperfections?

3. Jacob:

1. How does Jacob's life journey illustrate the transformative power of faith?

Hebrews 11.20-22

20 By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau concerning things to come.

21 By faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and **he worshiped, leaning on the top of his staff.**

22 By faith Joseph, as he was nearing the end of his life, mentioned the exodus of the Israelites and gave instructions concerning his bones.

- 2. Discuss the significance of Jacob wrestling with the angel. How can this event relate to our own spiritual struggles?
- 3. How did Jacob demonstrate trust in God's promises throughout his life?

4. Joseph:

- a. How does Joseph's faith compare to that of his predecessors?
- b. Why is Joseph's instruction about his bones so significant in understanding his faith?
- c. How can we emulate Joseph's unwavering trust in God's promises?

5. Thinking Things Through:

- a. Can you think of a time in your life when you felt like the promises of God were delayed or unfulfilled?
- b. How do the stories of Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph inspire you to hold onto your faith, even during challenging times?
- c. What lessons can we draw from the mistakes and imperfections of these patriarchs?
- d. How does the idea that "faith has always been how God wants mankind to approach Him" resonate with you?
- e. How can we ensure that our faith is active and living, as emphasized in Hebrews 10.38?

Group Activity

Pair up with another class member and discuss the following:

- a. Share a personal experience where your faith was tested.
- b. How did you handle the situation?

c. What lessons did you learn about trusting God's promises?

Walking with God Today

What practical steps can you take to strengthen your faith and trust in God's promises?