



Message Series Guide

Nothing < Greater

Part 13 – Faith in Action

Hebrews 13:1-18

Faith is not just something we *have*, it's something we *do*. Faith must be expressed through action. It's not even possible to please God without faith. Without faith, we can only go so far. Throughout the letter to the Hebrews, the author seeks to passionately persuade his readers of the superiority of Christ. As he brings the letter to a close, he turns from his carefully reasoned "sermon" to a series of practical applications for our faith. The book closes with a reminder that true faith requires confidence in a God that we cannot always see; in promises that are not always immediate; and in a hope that we can't always express. But one thing about faith – it never does *nothing*. It acts. It moves. It battles. It overcomes. It conquers. Faith declares, "Nothing is greater than Christ!"

READ:

Hebrews 13:1-18 | Matthew 25:35-40 | Psalm 118:6 | 2 Corinthians 1:10 | Philippians 4:18

- According to Hebrews 13:1, what is brotherly love? Is brotherly always easy? Why or why not? Where do we get the strength to follow this command when it's difficult?
- How does hospitality to strangers demonstrate how Jesus loves us? What point is the author making by saying that some have entertained angels unaware?
- How does the image of the church as a Body of Believers influence the way we consider the pain and needs of our fellow church members?
- Why is sexual purity so important to God and His mission? What does it look like for someone to be bound by their love of money? What does it look like to be free from the love of money?
- As followers of Jesus, how are we supposed to respond to our spiritual leaders? Why is it important that we follow spiritual leaders who are imitating Jesus? How is Jesus the same yesterday, today and forever?
- In ancient Israel, what types of people were "outside the camp?" Why did Jesus often minister outside the camp? What sufferings did Jesus endure outside the camp? Why are we to also minister outside the camp?
- What is a sacrifice of praise? Why is true worship impossible without faith in Jesus? What is our motivation for doing good and sharing what we have according to verse 16?
- What does it mean that leaders will have to give an account for the souls they watch over? (James 3:1; 1 Peter 5:1-4)

DISCUSS:

- Why does faith require action? Why is nothing greater than our faith in Jesus?
- What would people in our community think if they visited The Ridge and experienced a community of people who loved like a family, showed hospitality, cared for the needy, honored purity in marriage, and were free from the love of money?

PRAY:

Pray that people would come to faith in Christ because of the faith in action they see displayed at The Ridge.

RESPOND:

Make a commitment to put faith into action this week by looking for ways to practice hospitality, avoid immorality, flee from materialism and honor the Church.