

STAND-ALONE SERMONS: FOCUSED ON FAITH

DISCUSSION GUIDE

SUMMARY:

Typically, with the start of a new year, we tend to try to master the art of becoming a better person. New routines, new choices, new habits take the scene. Our reasoning for these life changes comes from a desire to achieve what we couldn't the year before and to experience a life that is good. While some of these changes might be for good reasons, the writer of Hebrews shows us that God isn't after our behavior but our belief. In these next few weeks, we'll unpack the idea of faith and see how it can change our lives.

Key Passages: Hebrews 11:1-4

Be sure to read this Scripture passage together before you proceed to the "Grow" section of our study.

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION

KNOW: Spend some time finding out how everyone's week has gone.

The questions in this section provide a guide for connectivity; feel free to approach this part of your group time organically over a meal or "connection" activity or with questions appropriate to your context.

What is something that you are thankful for this week?

What is something that is causing you stress or concern this week?

Who in your life is in need of prayer, physical help, or emotional encouragement right now?

GROW: Grow in the Lord as you engage His Word together.

Read Hebrews 11:1-2. According to this text, how is faith defined?

In Genesis 4:3-5, what was connected to Abel's sacrifice that made God approve it?

How has faith called you to action? How has complacency or foolishness or apathy gotten in the way of what Christ had or has for you? What do you need to do now about developing more faith?

GO: Talk through ways you can put what you've learned into practice.

What are some experiences in your life that have helped grow your faith in Jesus?

In what area do you struggle with the most in your faith? As a group, discuss some ways we can develop greater trust in God when it comes to these areas.

Is there someone in your life that has not experienced true faith in Jesus? Take time to pray for them this week.



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