

ULC Sermon Study Resource

Basic // What is Faith?

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Prayer: Pause for a few moments to go to the Lord in prayer. Ask that He would draw near to you in this time, and open your heart and mind to hear His Word.

Icebreaker: What is your favorite kind of music?

Reading: Hebrews 11:1-6

Outline:

I. The Definition of Faith

- a. Faith is a foundational, substantive base, from which we hope. Humans cannot live without a sense of identity, security, and meaning. Faith is where human beings grab ahold of that identity, security, and meaning than they are looking for.
- b. We have a living God and His Word, and His promises behind those creeds that we put our faith in. We are to trust in him. We should trust in the promises of God with our lives.

Q: How can we gain comfort knowing that the God we have faith in knows us personally and is for us?

II. The Knowledge of Faith

- a. Whatever or whoever we put our faith in determines the depth of identity, security, and meaning we might find in life. If by faith you grasp the knowledge of the Creator God, and place yourself before Him, that is where unfailing security can be found.
- b. This faith isn't just trusting in God's experience, it is believing that you can draw near to Him, that He loves you and is for you.

Q: In what areas of your life do you struggle to fully put your faith in God? How can you give Him control?

III. The Promise of Faith

- a. Nothing else in the world that we can put our faith in delivers but Jesus. Nothing else can give us the identity, security, and meaning we need to make it through each day and our toughest days, but Jesus.
- b. It is not about the size of your faith. It is about the size of the object of your faith. Place your trust completely in him and know that he will never let you down.

Q: How does it help to have faith in a God that knows the challenges of being human? How does this deepen our connection to faith?

Reflection/Application Questions:

- 1) How does having faith help us to get through hard seasons in our lives?
- 2) What does faith look like in your daily lives?
- 3) When are the times you find it hard to reorient yourself to the true object of your faith?

Suggestions for further study:

- 2 Corinthians 5:6-8 **Q: How can we overcome having faith in something we cannot see?**
- Romans 10:17 **Q: How can being a part of the church, and hearing scripture, reinforce our faith?**

Closing Prayer:

Gracious God, we thank you that you are faithful, and that because of your son Jesus, all of your promises are yes. We are so tempted to find our faith in other things. Draw our eyes to you and your Goodness. Help us trust in you always. Amen.