

Passcode Week 4 – Leverage Your Resources Spiritual Formation Guide

We hope you'll use this guide to take the teaching from Sunday's service and reflect on it with a few friends or a group. If you have questions or want to talk more about how to take your next spiritual step, contact us at <u>info@wschurch.org</u>.

Scripture:

Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see. ² Through their faith, the people in days of old earned a good reputation.

³ By faith we understand that the entire universe was formed at God's command, that what we now see did not come from anything that can be seen.

⁴ It was by faith that Abel brought a more acceptable offering to God than Cain did. Abel's offering gave evidence that he was a righteous man, and God showed his approval of his gifts. Although Abel is long dead, he still speaks to us by his example of faith.
⁵ It was by faith that Enoch was taken up to heaven without dying—"he disappeared, because God took him." For before he was taken up, he was known as a person who pleased God. ⁶ And it is impossible to please God without faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him.
Hebrews 11:1-6

Reflection Questions:

- What's a hidden gem or an inside secret tip that more people should know about?
- What stood out to you from Sunday's service? How did you sense God encouraging and challenging you through the songs, the message, and being with others as part of the church? (The message's main points and scripture are listed below if it helps you think back.)
- Is there something in your life that you want but feels out of your reach? Pause for a moment and write down what comes to mind. If you're willing to share it out loud, do.
- Eddie shared one of his favorite phrases, "God's favorite part of my story is the part where I trust him." What would a few of those parts of your story be?

- Read Hebrews 11:1-6. What do these verses say about faith?
- Eddie shared, "Faith is trusting that what God wants for me is enough...But the kind of faith the Bible emphasizes is NOT one dramatic leap of faith. It is many small steps of faith."
 - How have you experienced this in your life?
 - What does it look like practically to take some daily steps of faith?
- Eddie also walked through the story of Joshua and God's instructions for how to enter Jericho. (You can reference that story in Joshua 6.) What stood out to you from what God said and asked of Joshua in that story? What does it show us about the nature of faith?
- Is there anything else from this teaching that you want to explore more?
- Take time to pray and surrender to God as you close your time of reflection or discussion.

Want some resources and ideas for how to grow spiritually?

We are spotlighting our resource, **"How to Pray and Read the Bible,"** which you can get at our Next Steps Area or access online at <u>https://www.wschurch.org/content/pdf/How2PrayBible_Digital.pdf</u>. Visit <u>www.wschurch.org/resources</u> to see additional tools and resources.

Message Main Points and Scripture:

- Proverbs 18:11 "The name of the Lord is a strong fortress; the godly run to him and are safe."
- Hebrews 11:6 "It is impossible to please God without faith."
- God's favorite part of my story is the part where I trust him.
- 2 Corinthians 5:7 "We live by faith, not by sight."
- Jericho
- Joshua 6:1 "Now the gates of Jericho were tightly shut because the people were afraid of the Israelites."
- Joshua 6:2 "But the LORD said to Joshua, "I have given you Jericho, its king, and all its strong warriors. You and your fighting men should march around the town once a day for six days."
- Hebrews 11:1 "Faith is being sure of what we hope for..."
- Joshua 6:4 "Seven priests will walk ahead of the Ark, each carrying a ram's horn."
- Faith is being true to God's message, even when it's not what we prefer.
- Joshua 6:20 "When the people heard the sound of the rams' horns, they shouted as loud as they could. Suddenly, the walls of Jericho collapsed, and the Israelites charged straight into the town and captured it."
- When obedience seems the least helpful, it is the most powerful.
- Romans 8:32 "What shall we say about such wonderful things as these? If God is for us, who can ever be against us? Since he did not spare even his own Son, but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else?"