

Self-disclosure Questions/Icebreakers

Have you ever had to entrust your life to another person?

Scripture – Hebrews 11:1-6

Suggested Prayer

Spirit, open our eyes and guide our conversation so that our lives will be made conformable to the image of Christ.

Sermon Take-Away – If you need/want to review it, Pastor Colin talked about...

1. Faith is More than Bare Belief
 - a. Faith Understands
 - b. Faith Offers
 - c. Faith Builds
 - d. Faith Obeys
 - e. Faith Longs
 - f. Faith Blesses
 - g. Faith Worships
2. Faith Unites Us to Jesus Christ
 - a. Like a Branch Grafted into a Tree
 - b. Like a Bride Joined in Marriage to the Bridegroom
3. Faith Involves the Whole Person
 - a. Faith Trusts Christ Who Promises
 - b. Faith Loves Christ Who Redeems
 - c. Faith Follows Christ Who Calls

What was your take-away from this week's sermon?

Discussion Questions – Choose as few or as many as you'd like.

1. What is the difference between the living faith and bare belief? If a person with living faith is like a tree bursting with fruit, what is a person with bare belief look like by contrast?

2. Romans 11 teaches that faith unites the Christian to Christ in the same way that a branch is grafted onto a living root. What does this analogy tell us about the function that faith performs for the Christian?

3. How does a person who fears he does not have enough faith misunderstand the function of faith?

4. Pastor Colin said that there should be areas of our lives where we are trusting Christ's promises, but have not yet received them. Some people teach that the weakness of our faith is to blame whenever we ask but do not receive from God. Contrast Hebrews 11:32-34 with 11:35b-37. Does trusting Christ's promise mean that we will always, without exception, get what we ask?

5. Scripture often teaches that living by faith in Christ involves taking up our cross and following Christ into suffering. How does bare belief react when it is asked to take up the cross and suffer? Read Philippians 3:10-11. What was Paul's motivation for rejoicing in his suffering?

Suggested Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, strengthen our faith so that we might trust you more completely, love you more fervently, and follow you more carefully.