

Journey CHURCH

Pastor James Greer
James@jcpineville.com
www.jcpineville.com



Elijah Leader Guide Session 2- A Lesson About Faith

Weekly Memory Verse

*Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.
Hebrews 11:1*

Share Your Story

1. Why do some people lose their faith when they face difficult situations? Whose faith do you admire---perhaps a friend or family member? Why do you admire it?

2. Pair up with someone in your group. This person will be your prayer partner for the rest of this study---a friend to encourage you to complete the goals you set for yourself during this study, someone who can pray for you and who you can pray for. Take a few moments to talk and pray with your partner. Each of you should answer this question: “In what ways do you want to see God grow your faith in the coming weeks?” Then pray for one another.

Watch Session 1 of Elijah

Hear God’s Story

How can we become a part of God’s story? By aligning our stories with His. Discuss the teaching and stories you just experienced, as well as the Bible passage below.

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Read 1 Kings 17:17-24

1. Elijah had rescued the widow and her son by miraculously providing them with food. She was grateful, but then her circumstances changed. How did she respond to that change?

2. In the video, we heard Dr. Evans say that faith is acting like God is telling the truth. He noted that faith is “acting like it is so, even when it is not so, in order that it might be so, simply because God said so. You measure faith by what you do, not by how you feel.”

3. Based on this definition of faith, how would you describe the faith of the widow? What situation are you facing right now where things are “not so”---where things are not right or not as you wish they were?

Create a New Story

1. Faith requires that we believe God has our best interest in mind, even as we face situations that pressure us, as the widow did. Think about your life over the last couple of years. Looking back, can you think of a situation that pressed and tested you in the moment, but in the long run actually helped you to grow?

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2. Sometimes, we need to have the faith to help others, as Elijah did. Dr. Evans challenged us with the question, “How close are you willing to get to the problem, and be used by God to be the solution?” What problem might God want to use you to be the solution?

3. The widow’s faith was weak. How did she piggy back on Elijah’s faith? Tell about a time when your faith was weak and you relied on the faith of someone else to get you through that time.

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Use these daily devotions on your own between meetings. Each day, read the verse given. Take your time. Ask God to speak to you through His Word. Notice which word or phrase stands out to you. Then take some time to journal your response back to Him. You can write whatever's on your heart.

Day 1

Read Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Respond:

What are you believing/having faith for that has not yet happened in your life? What is the connection between faith in the promises of God and hope that these promises will come true? How does faith in God help you hold with conviction to “things not seen”?

Day 2

Read Hebrews 11:8

By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going.

Respond:

Faith in God is measured by what you do, not how you feel. Abraham believed God and in faith left his home city to step out into the unknown. Is there something right now that God is calling you to do that requires a step of faith? Are you willing to demonstrate your faith by obeying that call?

Day 3

Read Hebrews 11:17

By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was offering up his only begotten son.

Respond:

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Faith in God does not mean our lives are free from testing and trials. This certainly was not the case for the window of Zarephath or for Abraham, God will give us specific trials to reveal the real strength of our faith. What trials or test of faith have you been through? What trials or test are you currently going through? How are they impacting your faith?

Day 4

Read Hebrews 11:24-26

By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward.

Respond:

Faith often requires us, like Moses, to make tough choices about what we give our time and attention to. This may include giving up “passing pleasures” for the greater riches of Christ (Hebrews 11:26). Are there passing pleasures that in your life that are stumbling blocks in your walk of faith?

Day 5

Read Hebrews 11:29

By faith they passed through dry land; and the Egyptians, when they attempted it, were drowned.

Respond:

Sometimes God will put us in a tough situation, between a rock and a hard place, so that we have to put our faith in His power to do the impossible---like Israel caught between the pursuing Egyptians and the Red Sea. Have you faced an obstacle so big that only God could move it? Are you waiting on God to deliver you from any current “Red Sea” crises?