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KEY VERSES

Hebrews 11:1 “Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.”

Ephesians 2:8 “For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.”

Hebrews 11:6 “And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.”

Romans 10:17 “So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.”

Matthew 14:30-31 “But when He saw the wind, He was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.” Jesus immediately reached out His hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”





FAITH

D A R I N G

EACH OF US ARE CALLED TO HAVE DARING FAITH. A FAITH STRETCHES BEYOND THE NATURAL AND INTO THE SUPERNATURAL, SOMETHING BEYOND EACH AND EVERY ONE OF US. FAITH IS DARING, IT'S RISKY AND REQUIRES COURAGE. FAITH IS BOLD, COURAGEOUS AND REQUIRES SOMETHING FROM US IF WE ARE TO SEE TRANSFORMATION AND SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY TAKE PLACE IN AND AROUND OUR LIVES. WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO STEP OUT IN FAITH? TOGETHER, LET US LEAN TOWARDS WHAT IT MEANS TO BE BOLD, TO LIVE AN UNSHAKEABLE FAITH FULL OF COURAGE AND MAKE AN IMPACT ON THE WORLD AROUND US.



Key Verses: Hebrews 11:1 – 6; Romans 1:17

In the life of every follower of Jesus, there are certain ingredients you need to help grow and sustain you as you follow Him. Faith is a key ingredient.

My kids seem to have this knack of seeing and remembering things different to me or their mother and they've helped me realise more than anyone there is always another angle. So as it is with faith, like a diamond, there are many facets, angles and examples of faith but ultimately faith is seeing from God's point of view - having His vision.

Ephesians 1:8 "I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which He has called you." The opposite of faith is fear and fear

can do all sorts of strange things to us. The Bible gives us instances; real life accounts of people who walked with fear and the consequences of walking in fear. Fear can cause us to exaggerate difficulties and become easily discouraged; yet faith brings God into the equation, unlocking His promises and giving us power to walk confidently with Him.

Faith is a key ingredient to the life of anyone who follows Jesus. Daring faith stretches, challenges and moves us out of where we're comfortable. We need to embrace the stretch, because it's in the stretch that we grow!



DIG DEEPER

1. Why do you think God wants us to have faith?
2. Why is the way God sees things more important than the way we see them?
3. Has there been a time in your life when fear held you back?
4. Being safe often feels better than doing something unpredictable and risky. What might God say to you about this?
5. Compare how a problem in your life looks like through the eyes of fear and how it looks like through the eyes of faith in God.

DARING STEP:

**ASK GOD TO SHOW YOU AN AREA OF
YOUR LIFE WHERE YOU HAVE BECOME
COMFORTABLE AND ASK HIM TO
STRETCH AND CHALLENGE YOU?**





Key Verses: Mark 11:22 – 24; Luke 18:8; Hebrews 11:6

There are promises in heaven that God wants to release over our lives, but they cannot be released without faith. There are works of the Kingdom, that God wants to accomplish that cannot be accomplished unless the people of God develop deeper faith. But there is hope, because faith can be developed – faith grows!

Faith opens doors, is a difference-maker, future-shaper, bondage-breaker and a Kingdom-mover, but we must be willing to grow in our faith.

Jesus hinted towards degrees of faith as he described one group of people as having little faith while another as having great faith. No matter where we sit on that scale there is always room to grow. We don't have to figure it all out for ourselves; we just need to do what God tells us to do! God wants us to grow and develop in our faith.

God's word is a key ingredient to growing faith and the more familiar we are with God's word, the more familiar we will become with who He is; and as a result, our faith grows.

DIG

DEEPER

1. What stood out to you from this teaching?
2. If faith was on a scale from little faith to great faith, where would yours sit?
3. Growing a skill takes dedication, hard work and sacrifice. What do you think it looks like to grow in faith?
4. Read Mark 11:22-24. Was God specifically promising to move mountains, or was He making an even more important point? If so, what do you think it was?
5. What one thing could you do this week to help you grow in your faith?

DARING STEP:

**COMMIT TO READING GOD'S WORD FOR 30
MINUTES EVERY DAY THIS WEEK**

Notes





Key Verses: John 20:1 – 9; Romans 10:9

Enough of us know by now not to trust everything we read online, in a newspaper or in a magazine; or what we listen to on the radio or through our TVs. Yet so often we can spend more time listening to something we don't believe in than something we do.

The Bible is full of promises, over seven thousand in fact, that are there as assurances for those who have faith to believe in Jesus. In fact, one of the greatest promises is Romans 10:9 "if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord', and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." What a promise! When you take that step of faith to believe that Jesus not only lived and died, but rose again from the dead, you inherit eternal life.

God bringing Jesus back from the dead changed everything and split history in two. It is the most important event in history! Without the resurrection, the claims of the Christian faith are null and void, yet in His resurrection Jesus proved He was who He claimed to be, He keeps His promises and that there is life after death. The resurrection of Jesus gives us hope and certainty of the future, if we have faith to believe.



DIG DEEPER

1. What does it mean to have faith in Jesus?
2. [Read Romans 10:9] What do you think “Lord” means here?
3. What are examples of things that may cause people to lose faith?
4. Most will agree the Bible is more trustworthy than what we encounter online, or on TV, radio or magazines, so why do we usually spend more time getting information from them than the Bible?
5. You may think you believe in Jesus, but how can you know for sure? What evidence do you hold onto, both factual and experiential?

DARING STEP:

TAKE SOME TIME THIS WEEK TO TALK TO
SOMEONE CLOSE TO YOU ABOUT WHY YOU
HAVE FAITH IN JESUS.





Key Verses: Psalm 37:5-6, Matthew 14:22-32

Commitment is one of those words that perhaps you hear and internally groan at. With every commitment, we often feel there comes a burden of responsibility that sits entirely on our shoulders. Commitment can feel like a one-way street of responsibility that we would rather avoid. Yet any commitment with God in the picture should not feel onerous or heavy, or even one-sided, yes, there is effort, dedication and obedience, but these are given to a God who has already done far more than we can ask or imagine and to whom we can entrust our lives. Indeed, as we entrust our faith to His cause, we know that God has already entrusted Himself first to us.

In Psalm 37:5-6 it says, "Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him and He will do this: He will make

your righteous reward shine like the dawn, your vindication like the noonday sun."

A committed faith in God, has to go hand in hand with trust in God. Trust is not a passive state that we find ourselves in, but an active choice we have to live out. In Matthew 14:22-32 we read a story that many of us are familiar with, where Peter sees Jesus walking on the water, and steps out of the boat to walk towards Him. Peter must choose here to commit to an action; stepping out of the boat, but he can only do that when his trust is focused on the right thing, Jesus - without it, he sinks. If we want to live a life of daring faith, it will mean taking some risks, daring to act, daring to commit and to do that, we will need to grow our trust, keep our eyes fixed on God and build deep.

DIG DEEPER

1. How do you feel about the word commitment? How is committing something to God different to any other commitment?
2. How easy do you find it to trust God? What are some of the obstacles to trust in God? What helps to galvanise your trust in God?
3. Do you like taking risks? In what situations do risks feel acceptable? How do you take risks in your faith?

DARING STEPS:

ARE THERE ANY AREAS WHERE YOU
FEEL GOD IS CALLING YOU TO COMMIT TO
SOMETHING? HOW CAN YOU PUT THAT
COMMITMENT INTO ACTION?

Notes





Key Verses: Genesis 37; Hebrews 11:1; Ephesians 1:18; Isaiah 55:8-9

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

By its very nature faith requires imagination. For us to hope for something we cannot see, we have to imagine it. God is the Creator and He has given us the power of imagination.

In Genesis 37 we see God give Joseph a dream that required immense imagination. Joseph's trust in God's plan for his life was just as important when the dream was first given as it was when he was in prison. When we live by our imagination, we live in accordance to what we believe we are destined for, even when we can't see how that destiny will come about.

Living with a daring faith will often require sacrifice, but when we lose our vision it's easy to avoid the discomforts that were meant to take us to our destination. Imagination gives us purpose, even when we are experiencing pain.



DIG DEEPER

1. What stands out to you from this teaching?
2. Does your faith require imagination? If not, should it?
3. Read Eph 1:18 & Hebrews 11:1 - what is the significance of the word 'hope'?
4. What are some of the dreams that God has given you? And how are you actively pursuing them?

DARING STEP:
HAVE AN INTENTIONAL CONVERSATION
WITH A FRIEND ABOUT HOW YOUR FAITH
HAS SEEN YOU THROUGH TIMES
OF DIFFICULTY.

Notes





Key Verses: Luke 14:16 – 20; Luke 7:50; Matthew 28:16-20

Daring to go in faith is one of the keys to living a life of faith. Two of the words that summarise Jesus' message are: "Come!" and "Go!" We come to Jesus in faith and receive the Holy Spirit, and we go in faith and build God's kingdom.

In the book of Matthew, Jesus tells people to come and take His yoke upon themselves and learn from Him. A yoke is what's used to put two cattle together, in order to lighten the load. Jesus says, come, yoke up with me, partner with me and I'll help you. But then, once you're in God's family the verb changes and He says to you, go.

God's in the business of telling people to go, not because He doesn't like you, but because you carry something, others need to hear: He told Noah, go build an ark, He told Abraham, go to another country, He told Moses, go back to Egypt, He told Jacob to go and He told Gideon, Isaiah, David and Paul all to go, and it goes on and on.

Jesus came with a 'going' message and the job description of a faith-filled, Bible-believing follower of Jesus, is to go. "Go into all the world and make disciples, baptising them in the name of Father, Son and Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

Let's dare to go in faith.

DIG

DEEPER

1. What stands out to you from this teaching?
2. Describe a moment in your life when you came to Jesus? (Matthew 11:28-30)
3. Read Matthew 28:19-20. What does the great commission mean to you?
4. Read Luke 14:23. How would you compel your friends to come to the banquet?
5. The proof of the Holy Spirit in you is that you are going. Who are you telling the good news to?

DARING STEP:

**ASK GOD WHERE HE'S ASKING YOU TO
PLAY A BIGGER ROLE IN SHARING THE
GOOD NEWS OF JESUS?**

Notes





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WEEKLY OVERVIEW:
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