



WORSHIP

Exercising Faith

Objective for Learning: To understand the importance and reward of exercising faith.

Objective for Living: To grow in faith, standing firm during trials, and believing for the Lord to do the seemingly impossible.

Objective for Reproducing: To disciple others in having faith in what God has done and will always do for His children.

Scriptures for Exercising Faith:

- Hebrews 11:1, 6
- Matthew 17:20
- Romans 1:17
- Romans 4:16
- Mark 11:22-24
- Philippians 4:19
- 2 Corinthians 5:7
- Deuteronomy 31:6
- Mark 9:23
- 1 John 5:4
- Hebrews 10:23
- Habakkuk 2:4

How do each of these Scriptures help to **define** and **illuminate** what accountability is and why it is important?

Hearing (Discussion Points and Questions):

Overview:

The Bible gives us a clear definition of faith in Hebrews 11:1 “Faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of things unseen.” Biblical faith in God is not a hopeful shot in the dark, but an intimate trust in our Father who is near, mighty, benevolent and eternally trustworthy. We must begin our faith journey by believing that He exists and rewards those who seek Him (Hebrews 11:6); that God became sin in order to give us an all encompassing new identity as His righteousness (2 Corinthians 5:21). This belief brings us into right relationship and close contact with Him. This is saving faith.

But faith does not simply save us. Matthew 17:20 talks about faith as small as a mustard seed being sufficient enough to move mountains; to do the impossible! And this is based in the greatness of our God and our steadfast belief in His Word and promises. When we believe what God says, He moves and acts on our behalf (Phil. 4:19). Faith is like a muscle that needs to be exercised to increase and grow. We walk by faith, not by sight and God is calling us to lean more and more into His promises so we can see more of heaven come to earth.

Questions for Learning and Living:

- How do you grow in faith? Give some examples and ways that you have seen growth in this area of your walk with Jesus.
- How does God's Word play into increasing your faith?
- What do you do if your faith is wavering in a certain area of your walk with the Lord?
- If someone asked you why exercising faith is important, what would you tell them?

Questions for Reproducing:

- What are some strategies and ways to encourage others when their faith is low?
- What are the steps you would need to take to help others grow in their trust in God?
- How do you help to cultivate an endurance and perseverance of exercising faith in the lives of others?

Doing (Implementation and Application):

- What is Jesus saying to you about this?
- How are you going to respond? Look at your personal discipleship assessment.
 - Give 1-3 concrete action steps that you are going to do this week to help you take the next step of learning, living, or reproducing in this area.
- Think about something that only God could do and start praying in that direction with faith that God is going to move!
- Choose one of the Scriptures that really impacted you and commit to memorizing it this week.