

The Pioneer and Perfecter of Faith

Hebrews 11:32-12:3

3-1-15

1. What did you notice about the sermon this week?
2. What are some things you fear and how can faith conquer those fears? Are there areas of your life in which you can remember being afraid, but faith brought you through your circumstances? In Hebrews 11:34, it mentions some figures of faith and uses the phrase "whose weakness was turned to strength." Paul uses a similar phrase when recounting what the Lord had spoken to him, "for my [God's] power is made perfect in weakness" (2 Cor. 12:9). How do these phrases relate to your own journey of faith? How do these phrases help you understand the next step of faith you need to take?
3. As you consider the hardships that are mentioned in Hebrews 11, beginning in the second half of verse 35, what sticks out to you about what followers of Christ have had to endure? In Luke 14:27 Jesus says, "Whoever does not carry their cross and follow me cannot be my disciple." What crosses have you endured in your life? What crosses have you been asked to endure in the future? Is there anything that you aren't willing to suffer for Christ?
4. In the sermon we heard a story of a missionary couple who had given their lives to the service of Christ and yet no one greeted them when they returned to America. How did this story make you feel? Are there places in your life where you serve Christ with the expectation of immediate recognition or recognition from someone other than God? Reflect for a moment on the times and places where you have served Christ without any recognition; do not share this with your group.
5. In Pastor Jim's sermon, he mentioned the faith that Jesus exercised. Have you ever considered before that Jesus had faith? Consider Hebrews 4:14-16; how does this help you relate to Jesus?
6. Take some time to pray with your group. Pray that your faith may be strengthened as you meditate on the faithfulness of Jesus.