

Oct 31/21 – Small Group Leaders' Guide - Read Hebrews 11-12:2

1. How does our Canadian society "practise history", remember history, and connect itself to the past and its heritage?

Answers may vary.

2. How do we as Little Trinity "practise history", remember history, and connect ourselves to our biblical past and heritage?

Celebrating the Eucharist. Prayers. Feast days. Church seasons. Liturgy. Preaching. Reading and studying the Bible and church history. etc.

3. The writer of Hebrews commends the many saints and witnesses not for their character or virtue but for their acts of faith. While character and virtue are essential, how could we live our Christian lives *in faith* despite our own flaws?

We must continue to strive to match our behaviour with our professed beliefs in Jesus. Character and virtue will slowly mature in us for so long as we believe and take seriously who Jesus is, what He did, what He said, and what He taught us to do. Discipline is involved. The Holy Spirit is involved. It's a work of synergy that involves our personal choices and the work of the Spirit in our lives. This process is theologically called sanctification. Sanctification requires faith in Jesus. Even as we will fail and fall along the way, we can always stand back up with the Spirit's help and carry on. But only by faith.

4. The writer of Hebrews exhorts us to look to Jesus who is the Founder and Forerunner of our faith. How do we continually fix our eyes on Jesus together?

We are running the race and marathon together, and not just on our own. We have each other. We have a community. We can look back to our past and learn from the saints of old. We have the prayers. We have the record of biblical history and promise fulfilled. We have other Christian friends and family. We can rely on many of these as our means to fix our eyes on Jesus.