

Mar 1, 2026 - The Way of Faith
Hebrews 11:1-3, 11:8-12, 11:32-12:2
Gospel: Matthew 16:21-28

Small Group Questions

1. What immediately comes to mind when you hear the words “faith” or “belief”?
2. Hebrews 11:1 defines faith as “the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” How does this definition challenge or deepen your understanding of faith? In what way(s) is hope related to conviction?
3. Read Hebrews 11:8-19. How does the passage talk about the hope to which the people of God looked forward?

Consider Abraham and Sarah’s journey of faith. Where do you see the seeds of resurrection hope in their story? How does their story point to the fulfillment of their hope (and our hope) in Jesus?

4. The faith that is commended in Hebrews and the New Testament is a faith that trusts God and obeys, even when common sense and sight point to the seeming foolishness and riskiness of the endeavor. What do you find challenging or costly about obeying God when you don’t understand or when you don’t fully see the place God is leading you to? How does Jesus’ own suffering and perseverance shape our understanding of faithful endurance?
5. Faith is not vague optimism or wishful thinking that things will somehow work out in the end. Rather, faith is confidence in a promised resurrection of cosmic proportions. Through Jesus’ resurrection, God’s promised future has already begun.

How does believing in the resurrection of Jesus empower bold and hopeful faith rather than passive waiting? How does the resurrection of Jesus change the way we make decisions, pursue justice, or endure hardship?

What are some ways the resurrection of Jesus helps us see signs of God’s inbreaking Kingdom in the present?

6. Consider Hebrews 12:2 where Jesus is called the “pioneer and perfecter of faith.”

In what ways is Jesus more than merely a model or example of faith for us? How does fixing our eyes on Jesus help us grow in our faith in the context of daily life? What are some practices that help us fix our eyes on Jesus? Are there any practices that have been mentioned that you might want to implement into your own life-rhythm?

Closing Prayer

Close in a time of prayer focused on:

- Giving thanks for Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.
- Bringing petitions for areas of struggle where trusting-obedience is difficult or where endurance may be needed.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you fix your eyes on Jesus and grow your faith in him in the days to come.