

Life Groups

Questions from Pastor Bill's Message on Oct. 29.

GETTING TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER QUESTIONS: (Each Life Group may just want to pick one of these to discuss each week)

- 1) If you were 100 miles from home with no money, no credit cards, no friends around, no transportation, and no place to stay, what would you do to survive and make it home?
- 2) Was there ever a time in your life when you were financially broke, starving, or without adequate clothing? How did you survive?

BIBLE QUESTIONS: [Read James 2:14-26 and I John 3:17-18](#)

- 1) What stands out to you about these two sections of scripture or what tugs at your heart?
- 2) Is faith without works really dead? What does that mean?
- 3) What is John talking about in verses 3:17-18? What advice do you follow when it comes to helping homeless people?

LIFE GROUP CHALLENGE:

- 1) What are the three goals of a Life Group? To connect people to God, His Word, and one another. How are we doing this year as a group? What is going well? How could we improve?

QUESTIONS FROM THE SERMON:

1. What would be some examples of faith without works?
2. Talk about the definition of faith in the first point of Pastor Bill's message. What is faith? (See page 2)
3. In the parable of Duckland, why do you think we settle for so little when God has blessed us with so much? We have faith to fly. Why are we waddling in the dirt?
5. Pastor Bill said that belief that is theoretical and hypothetical is functionally useless. Then he read the quote on page two of this guide. What did you get out of that quote and Pastor Bill's words?
6. What do you think pleases God about Abraham's or Rahab's stories?
7. What else stood out to you from the passage or sermon?
8. Pastor Bill had many good quotes & sermon illustrations this week. Which one was your favorite? Why?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS/CHALLENGE: There are so many things that you can be involved with to put your faith into practice. Is anyone considering 1) helping with the stitching ring 2) Going to Jamil's "Love Your Neighbor" seminar 3) attending the Called to Care programming this Sunday in the youth basement? How will you put your faith into practice this week?

Prayer: Don't forget to pray for the elders and Vanderbloemen as they lead the pastoral transition. Pray for Pastor Bill during this time. Also, pray for those who are applying for this position and for the man God is calling to lead us.

Here are a few sermon excerpts that I thought you would find helpful:

What is faith? It is *more* than just believing something. Faith is *belief plus what we do with that belief*. It is *not believing in spite of the evidence* but *obeying in spite of the consequence*. Faith is *a conviction* which touches *intellect, emotion, and will*. We *believe* something. We *desire* something. Then, we *act* on it. That is *real faith*. Real faith, James said, is *a faith that works.*" - Harbour pg. 44

There are *three elements* of faith that we must consider. *When the Bible talks about faith it is referring to these 3 elements of faith.*

- (1) A firm conviction that acknowledges the revelation of God.
- (2) A personal surrender to the God who revealed himself to me.
- (3) A changed conduct inspired by that surrender.

I was *hungry* and you formed a *humanities club* and *discussed* my hunger. Thank you.

I was *imprisoned* and you *crept off quietly* to your chapel and *prayed* for my release.

I was *naked*, and in your mind you *debated* the *morality* of my appearance.

I was *sick* and you *knelt* and thanked God for your health.

I was *homeless* and you *preached* to me of the *spiritual shelter* of God's love.

I was *lonely* and you *left me alone* to pray for me. You seem so *holy*, so *close to god*.

But I am still very *hungry, lonely, and cold*. - Harbour pg. 45