

# LIGHTHOUSE GROUP CURRICULUM

## Hebrews Chapter 11

### LEADER'S STUDY

#### **Knowing God leads to Faith:**

Knowing the person and the character of God informs our thoughts and our actions. God wants to be known by us and He rewards those who seek Him. Often we learn who God is through challenging circumstances that we can only walk through by faith. On the other side of every hard circumstance or dark valley is a deeper understanding of God and a deeper relationship with Him. The only path to that is trusting Him by faith. He is the stronghold that we can turn to in every situation. Even when we do not see the way out or what the outcome will be when we place our hope in Him and act on that He reveals His character to us. In Him we have the only real hope that exists. Not just hope in the future but hope right now in the middle of our broken world. As you read this week think deeply about the hope that is found with God. Think about the freedom and strength that God has given us through the gospel. Think about how the Holy Spirit enables you to live by faith today. Give thought to what it was like before you had hope. What is it like for others to be living without hope right now?

As you study, ask yourself questions like this. How do I respond when my circumstances are difficult? What do I believe about God's character? What does scripture say about His character? Are there differences in what I believe and what Scripture says? What response is God calling me to today based on His word? How is God inviting me to follow Him? How is God changing my thinking? Be willing to share areas that He is calling you to "follow Him" and make clear I statements about how you are going to align with Him.

Some helpful scripture: Ps 27, 1 Pet 1, Rom 8, Isaiah 49, Gen 21, Joshua 2 and 3  
What other places in scripture speak this same truth?

How is God calling you to think and to live differently? How does this change your perspective today? How is God calling you to respond based on this scripture? Spend some time reading this whole chapter and meditating on it as you prepare for your meeting. Be willing to share this with your group and invite them to join you in sharing how God is asking them to respond to His word.

### PREPARING BEFORE GROUP

**PURPOSE:** Life transformation through the Holy Spirit. He uses scripture and prayer to renew our minds and transform our lives!

**PRAY:** Pray for the people in your groups by name. Spend time asking the Holy Spirit to help you lead well as you meditate on key passages and seek to know God's heart.

**PLAN:** This week plan on spending some time talking about the "reaching our cities" initiative that is happening on the 27<sup>th</sup> of this month at Lighthouse. This is for anyone who wants to go out into Findlay and pray for people and have gospel conversations with them. Often

Maybe your group has been hearing God's voice in scripture and you have been affected by the gospel. This could be the chance for your group to share that good news with others in a really practical way. Last week we read in Acts 4 about Peter and John saying that they could not stop telling people about Jesus and what they had seen. Jesus told us that we would be His witnesses in the world. I would encourage you and your groups to take the step of Faith and tell others about your savior. The world is in need of hope and you have it in Christ.

Take about 3 minutes and 30 seconds to watch the two videos linked in this email with your groups this week and talk about joining in with the team on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

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### INTENTIONAL BIBLE READING

READ Hebrews Chapter 11

Read Hebrews Chapter 11 in the ESV or similar word-for-word translation.

Read it again in the NLT to get a thought-for-thought perspective.

(With larger portions of scripture like this, it's good for multiple people to read it aloud. Especially online, this helps people get used to using their voice)

Try to summarize the passage in your own words.

### STUDY QUESTIONS

**What seems to be the main point of these verses?**

**What is significant, surprising or confusing from these verses?**

**What did you discover or learn about God and His character from this passage?**

**How does this portion of scripture point to Jesus and the gospel?**

**Consider the perspectives of all the parties involved in this passage. Ask yourself why they responded the way they did.**

**How does this scripture change your thinking?**

**Why did God bring me to this scripture today?**

**What parts of this passage are challenging to your current way of thinking?**

### APPLICATION QUESTIONS

**How are you going to obey this passage?**

**What is your "I will" statement?**  
(Encourage everyone to steer clear of "we" or "us" or "Christians" statements)

**With whom are you going to share what you have learned?**  
(This is a critical part of growth that is often overlooked. If we can share it with someone else it means we really understand it, it cements it in our own minds, it makes us accountable to the truth and it blesses the one who hears the it. Rom 10:17)

**Based on this passage, what can we pray about and how should we pray?**