

# LG | LeaderGuide

[Primary Text: Hebrews 11]

## PRAY

**Pause. Acknowledge that you are about to open God's word.**

- Ask the Holy Spirit to illuminate His word.

## WARM-UP

**Prepare our minds to receive God's word.**

- When reflecting on the message this past Sunday, what most resonated with you?

## ILLUMINATE

**Open your Bibles to the primary text. If you do not have a Bible, your leader can provide one.**

- Let's read together our primary text. What major themes do you see here?

[Eternal Commendation by Faith, Perseverance, Faithful Living For a Promised Future](#)

- How is faith defined here in Hebrews 11? Can you explain faith in your own words?

[Hebrews 11:1 defines faith as "The assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."](#)

[To have faith is to be whole-heartedly convinced of something you can't see. But our faith isn't a blind one. According to Romans 1, God has made his invisible attributes known to everyone. We can see the evidence of God through creation and providence. However, faith requires us to go beyond a mere acknowledgement of God's existence to a conviction that what he says is true, compelling us to action.](#)

- How did you come to have faith? What were some of the things that convinced you of the truths found in God's word?

[God uses all kinds of different things to convince our hearts of the realities of the gospel. Spend some time discussing how he convinced yours and be encouraged by the ways God has worked in the lives of those in your group.](#)

- Hebrews 11:4-12 discusses the faith of several different people in Israel's history. What do verses 13-16 teach us about what they had in common? What was driving their faith?

[These verses teach us that these faithful Israelites died without receiving the things promised.](#)

[Though they never saw the things promised, they continued in faith. They trusted God, believing that he would be faithful and fulfill his promises, even if they never saw it in this life. They died without seeing the fulfillment of those promises, but still trusted that God was going to come through on them. Their faith was driven by the promise of a coming Messiah and the hope of heaven.](#)

- What two options in life was Moses faced with, and what does his decision teach us about what he was convinced of? How are we faced with the same options today?

Moses was faced with the options of being mistreated with the people of God or enjoying the fleeting pleasures of sin in Egypt. He chose to be mistreated with the people of God because he considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt. In other words, "I'd rather have God and his people than riches and pleasures". Today, we're faced with similar temptations. We could devote our lives to work, making as much money and achieving as much status as we can; or we can devote our lives to God and his mission in our lives.

- What are the differences between a faith-driven life and a feeling-driven life?

A faith-driven life trusts God's at his word because it knows it's true. Regardless of earthly circumstances, a faith-driven life is able to continue trusting God in the midst of life's storms. A feeling-driven life on the other hand, only trusts God when it feels like it. When things are going well, it may trust God, but what about when things aren't going well, and you don't "feel" like trusting God?

- When do you find it most difficult to have faith? Where do you turn to in order for your faith to be strengthened in those times?

All of us have times where our faith is shaken, and our flesh doesn't want to trust God. For some of us, it's when tragedy strikes; for others, when things are going great and we don't "feel" a need for God. In these times, it's important for us to look away from our circumstances and toward the promises of God. Some helpful scriptures to cling to when you aren't "feeling it".

**Mark 9:24** – "Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, 'I believe; help my unbelief!'"

**Psalms 84:11** – "For The Lord God is a Sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly."

**Romans 8:28** – "And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose."

## **PRAY**

**Use this time to pray specifically. What does tonight's conversation lead you to pray for?**