

# Cultivating Faith and Faithfulness Even When We Don't Feel Like It Part 1

In this Bible study, Sally gives us a big picture view of the Hebrews and their struggles and how some chose to respond.

Do you have a feeling of despair or fear over the current disasters and sadness in our world? Is daily life overwhelming for you? God has encouragement for you. This world is not our home. Jesus, our High Priest, is with us at every moment. The book of Hebrews shows us that in spite of discouragement, we can have the courage to live by faith in the light of Jesus' love and sacrifice.

#### Read

Spend some time reading the book of Hebrews this month. Read a little bit each day. Read Numbers 13 and 14.

### Reflect

The spies that Moses sent to Canaan rebelled against God and had the sin of unbelief. They chose to not believe God. The book of Hebrews tells us the stories of the people who chose to BELIEVE, who believed that without faith it is impossible to please God.

Are you grumbling as the people did in the wilderness? Are you saying, "God will not take care of me?" Are you looking at your circumstances from your own eyes and becoming a grasshopper in your own sight? (Number 13:33)

OR will you choose to say, "I will be faithful day after day after day. I will believe that God cares about my faithfulness. I will believe that God truly loves me. I will believe that He cares to carry my burdens. I will believe that He will be with my children when they are out from under my control and making decisions in the world. Whatever happens, I will be there to love them, to remind them, to be a picture of light to them and a picture of hope to them."

Which are you saying to yourself in your heart day after day?

## Pray

Pray that the Lord will help you choose to be a person of faith. That He will use the stories of faith in Hebrews and elsewhere in scripture to remind you that you can choose to believe His promises, to believe that He loves you and your children.

#### Commit

Make a commitment in your heart to ponder Christ and His faithfulness and to choose to believe.

## Some Key Verses:

Therefore, since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin. Therefore let us draw near with confidence to the throne of grace, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hebrews 4: 14-16

Take care, brethren, lest there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart, in falling away from the living God. But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is still called "Today," lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin. For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end.

Hebrews 3:12-14

There is a Sabbath rest for the people of God.

Hebrews 4:9

Therefore, brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; and let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:19-25

Therefore, do not throw away your confidence, which has a great reward. For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God, you may receive what was promised. For yet in a very little while, He who is coming will come, and will not delay. But my righteous one shall live by faith; and is he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him. But we are not of those who shrink back to destruction, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.

Hebrews 10:35-11:1