

Small Group Discussion Guide (11.23.24) – Read Hebrews 11:1-3

- How does the end of Hebrews 10 connect with the beginning of Hebrews 11? (note especially 10:36-39) What connections do you see?

- What is the author's purpose in recounting this list of OT saints? What is it that we can learn from them, and be exhorted in ourselves?

- What are some common definitions of 'faith' today? How would our culture define faith? What would the world say about how we should live?

- Why can it be so hard to live by faith, especially in the midst of trials and suffering?

- What would be the author's definition of 'faith'? How do the two halves of vs. 1 help give us a biblical definition? Can anyone help to explain this a bit more?

- What does it mean that our works do not justify us before God, but they do verify the reality of our faith? How do we see this in the lives of those listed in vs. 4-38? Why is it so important that our lives and what we say we believe be woven together? How does the author's definition of faith show this to be the case?

- What do we mean that our faith rests on God's Word? How does the author illustrate this in the example he gives in vs. 3? What's his main point?

- Where do you recognize that you are weak in faith right now?

- What are practical ways we can grow in faith and / or "lay hold" of the promises of God's Word individually and even together as a group?