

# Small Group Discussion Outline



PART FOUR IN OUR "LIVING IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD" SERIES

Prayer is the means through which Christians can exercise the authority of the Kingdom. Praying is inviting God's rule into a situation.

If prayer is the action of conducting a "Kingdom Transaction", then Faith is the "Currency of the Kingdom." Faith is the basis of inviting Kingdom rule into a situation. Faith is the foundation of effective prayer.

If you want to get anything in the Kingdom of God, then you need faith.



**Read: Hebrews 11:1-3; Hebrews 11:13-16; Hebrews 11:20-22**



**1. Have you ever had a promise from God that took time to be fulfilled?**

**2. What are some of the things that kept you holding fast to God's promise even when things seemed impossible?**



**Read: Hebrews 11:11**



**3. What reason does the writer of Hebrews give for the fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham.**

Hebrews 11:11 says that Abraham "was *enabled* to become a Father" because he accepted that regardless of circumstances or appearances, God is faithful. Abraham took God's Word to him and made the decision to believe it. Abraham believed that God is faithful.

The key character trait of all of the people mentioned here in Hebrews chapter 11 is their unswerving faith in God. Nearly all of them had something else in common too; they had to wait for God's Word to be fulfilled.

Their faith had to last beyond the initial excitement of hearing from God, many of them had to wait a very long time to see God's Word fulfilled in their lives.

The faith that is required is not some kind of excitement that can be worked up in a one-off encounter with God; the faith of the Kingdom of God is a conviction and belief that is grounded in a deep and personal relationship with God who has demonstrated His faithfulness right throughout history.

Not once had God made a promise He has not kept. The faith of the Kingdom is taking God at His Word.

## The Currency of The Kingdom

You may reproduce and distribute this outline by any means free of charge.

You may not charge for this material or claim it as your own work.

© Copyright 2005  
Chris Woodham  
WAIUKU ASSEMBLY OF GOD  
All rights reserved  
PO Box 196  
Waiuku 1852  
New Zealand

Smith Wigglesworth, the famous preacher, evangelist and healer famously said “Only believe!”



**Read: Hebrews 11:5-6**



**4. What two things are required in this passage?**

**5. What do you think this means?**

The true worshipper has two requirements: (1) believe that God exists (2) trust in God’s moral character, “that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.”

Faith is the essential element in the Kingdom of God, without faith our experience of the benefits of the Kingdom in our lives today will be minimal at best.



**Read: Romans 1:17; 2 Corinthians 5:7; Galatians 2:20**

The Message™ Bible says in Hebrews 11:20 “*By an act of faith, Isaac reached into the future as he blessed Jacob and Esau.*”

When Jesus returns everything in the world will be subject to His perfect rule. All the characteristics of the Kingdom of Darkness will be reversed. The “Good news about the Kingdom” that Jesus taught was that for those who would believe in Jesus, that future could be experienced in some degree *today*.

The prayer of faith is the prayer that believes God’s Word that the Kingdom can be a present reality for Christians. The prayer of faith reaches back into everything we know about God’s faithfulness and allows that to give us confidence, then reaches forward into the future promise of God’s Kingdom then invites it into our lives today.

Faith and prayer are inextricably joined, so are faith and action. Faith is demonstrated in the things we do. Our actions reveal what we believe. Abraham believed God and acted to position himself for God’s Word to be fulfilled.

The Bible is filled with instructions and promises to us. Some are for all believer’s, other’s are available to those who obey the command or condition attached to them. There are also those that God gives each of us as we read His Word.

Living in the Kingdom of God requires us to be positioning ourselves for God’s Word to be fulfilled, putting ourselves in the place where God will act. This does not mean trying to force God’s hand, it means to use common sense and be available for God to work in our lives.

God’s Word instructs us to do things like sharing the Good News with others. The book of Acts is filled with accounts of God’s power being revealed when people obeyed this instruction. Living in the Kingdom of God means acting and positioning ourselves to do these things effectively and trusting that everything God said will happen when we do this will happen.

For the Word of God to have any effect in our lives we need to believe it and pray the words off the pages into our lives; responding to the instructions, claiming the promises and trusting in God’s faithfulness.

**WAIUKU ASSEMBLY OF GOD**

**Ph:** (09) 235 7341 **Mob:** (021) 187 1928 **Email:** waiukuag@wag.org.nz **Web:** www.wag.org.nz