

CORNERSTONE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Make Us Faithful – Life Group Study

A couple of weeks ago Lloyd touched on Luke 17 where Jesus taught the disciples about faith. They said, 'Give us faith' or 'Increase our faith' (depending on which translation you read). NT Scholar Joel Green comments that what the disciples were saying was "Make us faithful people." Green goes on to say that faith isn't so much a possession as a disposition. A way of being. A characteristic. Faith is trusting in God's sovereignty, his goodness, his mercy, his grace and coming under the Lordship of Jesus Christ in response to our faith in God.

- Let's talk about faith... Share your ideas and thoughts about faith.

Read Luke 17:1-10

- What does Jesus say to the disciples about 'having more faith'
- What is the relationship between faith and faithfulness

Corrie ten Boom said "If you look at the world, you'll be distressed. If you look within, you'll be depressed. If you look at God you'll be at rest."

Corrie helped many Jews escape the [Nazi Holocaust](#) during [World War II](#) by hiding them in her closet. She was imprisoned for her actions.

Read Luke 9:23-27

I find Jesus' words very sobering, he is saying that we cannot cling to this life and also serve the redemptive plan of God. The original hearers of Jesus words would have equated carrying the cross daily as to live each day as though they had been sentenced to death by crucifixion. Joel Green comments that a person who had been legally condemned to death forfeited their estates and were denied burial. So those who heard the word would have heard the warning that the pursuit of status and possessions went against the way of the kingdom.

They would have understood that following Jesus freed them from such worthless/dire pursuits and empowered them to live according to the values of the kingdom of God Jesus demonstrated and spoke of. He says that possessions have the potential to weaken and even rob us of our faith. Because rather than spending ourselves of His purposes – the advancing of the kingdom of God, the poor the marginalized and the needy. We spend ourselves on ourselves.

- Discuss the impact of the cost of following Jesus in our lives.