

Looking ahead...

Next week, we will be looking at the theme of “**hope**” in *Colossians 1:15-29*. There is a mystery to *hope*. The writer of *Hebrews* talks about “*assurance of things hoped for.*” What does that mean? Who is the “*hope of glory?*” What is the mystery of people that hate each other becoming brothers and sisters? We are going to learn about Jesus being our hope. He is the only hope we have of true riches. We will look at hope while suffering and why hope is essential to our outlook on life.



Readings to prepare for the coming week:

___DAY 1 (September 9): *1 Peter 3:14-16*

___DAY 2 (September 10): *Romans 5:1-5*

___DAY 3 (September 11): *1 Timothy 4:9-16*

___DAY 4 (September 12): *Romans 15:8-13*

___DAY 5 (September 13): *1 Peter 1:3-9*

___DAY 6 (September 14): *Ephesians 1:15-23*

FAITH

Week One

This week we looked at “**faith**” in *Hebrews 11*. We learned that our faith starts with our unseen Creator. It is not instantly gratified but eternally focused and finds its foundation in Jesus’ rewards. To be a person of *faith*, we learn to find all we need in Jesus. As we go into our families, school/work settings, and community circles, we can’t help but speak of faith and live out our faith. We have conviction of that which is unseen because we have seen God work in our lives.

Making it personal...

Which observation(s) from Sunday's sermon do you feel the need to apply to your life (see below)?

(Faith starts in the unseen, Faith starts through the creator, Faith is not instantly gratified, Faith is in the eternal promises of God, and Faith's foundation is that Jesus' rewards are better than the best rewards on earth).

How would applying these affect your coming week?

Where is your faith at right now?

What does faith start with and why is that so important?

How are you currently acting on your faith in your 3 life circles?

How *can* you act on your faith in your family circle? Your school/work circle? Your community circle?

What is the most difficult part of faith in Jesus Christ for you right now?

What can faith do? (Read Hebrews 11:33-34)

What do you need to happen in your life from the list found in Hebrews 11:33-34?

How can you work on this list in your 3 life circles?

In your "SonLight Circle," write down 3 people that need faith and exchange your list with another person in the circle. Pray for these people that they would lose the need for instant gratification and place their faith in the eternal promises of God. Pray that they would have faith in Jesus Christ, His sacrifice for their sins, and His resurrection from the dead. Pray for everyone's individual circles (Family, School/Work, Community) to be transformed through faith in Jesus.