

By Faith Session 1

As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are saved by faith (Ephesians 2:8-9), walk by faith (2 Corinthians 5:7), and please God by faith (Hebrews 11:6). Let's grow in faith.

Ephesians 3:20-21

Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

We believe God is able to work in us to be glorified through us by faith.

Discovery

Underline key words or phrases in the passage.

Discussion

- What key words or phrases did you underline? Why?

(As words are identified, have your group raise hands for how many people also identified the key word, and let the kids count the hands and report.)

- Dream a little! Make a list of areas of life you would like to pray about God "do[ing] exceeding abundantly above all [you] ask or think?"

Your facilitator will decide whether you will take some quiet time to do it in your group or make a group list. When you pray together later, this will be a part of your prayer fellowship.

A Further Word!

2 Corinthians 10:15-16

...but having hope, when your faith is increased, that we shall be enlarged by you...To preach the gospel in the regions beyond you...

We grow and give in the grace of generosity by faith.

Discovery

As Paul challenged the Corinthians about the faith to grow in the grace of generosity, what does 2 Cor. 8:7 indicate about growth in our lives?

Compare this truth to 2 Corinthians 10:15-16 above. What did Paul hope would happen as the Corinthians grew in the grace of generosity?

Discussion

- T or F Growing in the grace of generosity creates opportunities for God to make an impact through us that goes beyond ourselves.

If false, re-word the statement to make it true.

If true, what advice would you give a person who recently discovered this truth.

Romans 5:1

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

Discovery

"Therefore" takes you to Romans 4 to study the context. Read Romans 4:3-5 and answer the following: Who is the main character? Can you explain how he was "justified" - declared righteous in God's sight?

We are reconciled to God with Christ's righteousness by faith.

Conclusion and Prayer Fellowship

In small groups, have one or two share their testimony of being justified by faith. Then, have one or two pray their Eph 3:20-21 list while others do so silently.