

All Christians' Fellowship International

INTERACTIVE SUNDAY SCHOOL OUTLINE

TOPIC: Eyes on The Prize

TEXT: Hebrews Chapter 11:1 to Chapter 12:3

Instructions - Let the above passages be read each time you come together to study this topic so that everyone could participate fully. The teacher should provide additional background information on the topic and come up with follow-up questions. Participants should be brief in their responses and use relevant Bible references to illustrate their points. They should be careful not to dominate the discussion to allow everyone to have an equal opportunity to participate.

Introduction: It does not take much research into world missions, either present or past, to find the ground littered with casualties. It's tough to follow Jesus, and if we enter into the spiritual battle of taking the good news of Jesus where no one has heard of him, the battle will intensify. How can we find the stamina to keep on going and not quit? This was the exact issue facing the people who received this book of Hebrews.

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Think of your hero(s) of the faith, either people of biblical times or others from Christian history (you can even cite people who are alive today). Why do you consider them heroes? What is it about their faith that you 'd like to emulate? Is there anything about their lives that you'd rather not imitate? Discuss.
- 2. According to Hebrews 11:1, what is the biblical definition of faith and what does this mean? Discuss the last time you really stepped out in faith into a place which took you out of your own comfort zone, into a place where you had to trust God?
- 3. In the entire chapter, who is your favorite character (other than Jesus)? How or why do you relate to him or her?
- 4. As you face your own future and even contemplate the possibility of cross-cultural service where you are located or in another place, how might you draw strength from Abraham's story (11:8-9)?
- 5. What long-term vision did these people of faith share, even Jesus (11:6, 10, 13-16, 25-26; 12:2)? How does this vision inspire you?

- 6. Some teach that following Jesus guarantees success, wealth, and health. How does this compare with the faith accounts of 11:32-38?
- 7. How does this passage encourage you to have a bolder faith? In what ways are these examples frightening to you?
- 8. Imagine that you're writing a letter to coworkers who are serving in a very difficult place (surrounded by violence or poverty or religious opposition) where it would be easy to lose heart and quit the faith. What would you tell them or how would you use this passage to encourage them?
- 9. What steps of faith and what types of sacrifices might we be willing to make if our eyes are on the "joy set before us"? Discuss.
- 10. Read Philippians 3:7-14. Keeping in mind, how Paul describes his passion to know Christ, the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings. How does Paul's passion affect the way he looks at past accomplishments?