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SMALL GROUP GUIDE



LIVING OUT WHAT YOU BELIEVE

BASED ON HEBREWS 3:14

OVERVIEW

ABOUT THIS SESSION

This sermon challenged believers to move beyond professing faith and begin actively living it out. Minister Kendra and Minister Tamika both drew from personal experience to show that genuine faith is demonstrated through daily trust, obedience, and perseverance, especially when circumstances are difficult, answers are delayed, and discouragement feels overwhelming.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

1. **Faith is not just a declaration, it is a daily practice.**
   Saying you trust God and actually trusting God when life is hard are two very different things. Living out your faith means waking up each day and choosing to act on what you believe, even when nothing around you confirms it.

2. **The middle of the journey is part of the plan.**
   We often see the end of someone else's story and compare it to the middle of our own. But the small, unglamorous, sometimes discouraging steps in between are not signs that you are off track. They are the path.

3. **God equips you for what He calls you to do.**
   As referenced in 1 Peter 4:10-11, God gives each person gifts and expects those gifts to be used in service to others. Recognizing and using what God has already placed in you is an act of faith.

4. **Discouragement is real, but it does not have to be final.**
   Both ministers were honest about seasons of wanting to quit. Losing hope is a human experience, not a disqualifier. What matters is whether you get back up and keep going.

5. **Hebrews 3:14 calls us to trust God as firmly now as when we first believed.**
   Faith is not about reaching a finish line. It is about maintaining the same confidence in God that you had at the beginning, even as the journey grows more complex.

DISCIPLESHIP

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Use these to open up honest conversation in your group, one-on-one, or in your own journaling this week.

OPENING

01 Think back to when you first came to faith or first received a clear word from God about something. What did your trust look like in that moment? How does it compare to where you are now?

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02 Minister Kendra asked the group directly: "Is the faith you profess the faith you are actually living?" How would you honestly answer that question right now?

GOING DEEPER

03 Minister Tamika described a long gap between receiving the vision for her nonprofit and actually seeing it take shape. Have you ever had a vision, a calling, or a promise from God that seemed to stall? What did that waiting period feel like?

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04 She said, "We've been conditioned to hear how people end their story, but we don't hear the little parts in between." How has comparing your process to someone else's outcome affected your faith or your willingness to keep going?

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05 Fear was one of the first things that caused Minister Tamika to pull back from what God told her to do. What fears have caused you to hesitate or step back from something God placed on your heart?

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06 Minister Kendra said, "It is one thing to tell somebody else to trust God. It is another thing when you are the one who has to trust God." Can you describe a moment when that shift happened for you personally?

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07 Proverbs 3:5-6 was referenced as a word God gave Minister Tamika in a moment of paralysis. The passage speaks to trusting God completely rather than relying on your own understanding, and the promise that He will direct your path. How does leaning on your own understanding get in the way of living out your faith?

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08 Minister Tamika mentioned that even in her hardest season, losing her mother, her job, her nonprofit funding, and her nonprofit name all within a short period, her faith looked like getting out of bed and taking the next small step. What does faith look like for you in your hardest seasons? What is the smallest act of trust you can point to from a difficult time?

REFLECTION AND APPLICATION

09 The sermon emphasized that your actions need to align with what you believe. In your current season, what is one area where there is a gap between what you say you believe and what your daily choices reflect?

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10 Minister Tamika challenged the group not to just talk about what God did at the end of the journey, but to also be honest about the middle. If you were to tell your story right now, what would you say about the middle?

THIS WEEK

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

This week, choose at least one of the following.

Identify the thing.

Write down one vision, calling, promise, or prayer request that you have set aside out of fear, discouragement, or doubt. Bring it back before God in prayer this week and ask Him to show you the next small step.

Take the next small step.

You do not need the full plan. Minister Tamika did not have a name, a budget, or a strategy when she started. She just started. Identify one concrete action, however small, that moves you toward what God has called you to do and do it before this group meets again.

Be honest with someone.

Find one person in this group or in your life and tell them the truth about where your faith actually is right now, not the polished version. Practice the kind of transparency that was modeled in this sermon.

Pray specifically and persistently.

James 4:2 was referenced to remind us that we do not have what we want because we do not ask. Write out a specific prayer request and commit to bringing it before God daily this week. Do not stop asking.

Declare your week.

As Minister Tamika closed, she encouraged the congregation to set the tone by declaring in advance what they believed God would do. Start each morning this week with a declaration of faith over your day, your family, or your situation, even if your feelings do not match the words yet.

CLOSE IN PRAYER

CLOSING PRAYER FOCUS

Close your group time by praying for one another in these specific areas:

- Those who are in the middle of a difficult season and cannot yet see the outcome
- Those who have set aside a calling or vision out of fear or discouragement
- Those who are grieving a loss, whether a person, a job, a relationship, or a dream
- Those who need the courage to take the next step even without the full picture

MEMORY VERSE FOR THE WEEK

"For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, we will share in all that belongs to Christ."

HEBREWS 3:14 (NLT)

The passage reminds believers that holding firmly to their original confidence in Christ, remaining faithful to the end and trusting God just as firmly as at the beginning, is how they share in all that belongs to Christ.

GO DEEPER THIS WEEK

Join us Wednesdays at 7:30 PM for Bible Study, or bring this guide to your small group.

Join Wednesday Bible Study **See all Connect groups**