

Small Group Guide: Jesus Is ... Building My Faith: Seeing Through Eyes of Faith

Opening Question: Share a time when you faced a challenging situation that seemed impossible to overcome. How did you approach it?

Opening Prayer: *Dear God, We come before You with hearts open and eager to learn from Your Word. We thank You for the opportunity to gather together in fellowship as a Community Group. As we look into these lessons from Pastor Dan's message, we ask for Your guidance. Lord, lead our discussion, encourage our hearts, and draw us closer to You. We pray that through this study, we might better understand how to trust in Your promises and walk boldly into the plans You have for us. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*

Key Takeaways:

1. Our perspective determines how we respond to life's challenges.
2. Looking at life through human eyes often leads to fear, discouragement, and complaining.
3. Seeing life through God's eyes (faith) opens the door for miracles and helps us persevere.
4. Faith doesn't remove storms but calms us in the midst of them.
5. Our foundation in Christ determines our stability in difficult times.

Discussion Questions:

1. **Read Numbers 13:33.** In this passage, the Israelites saw themselves as "grasshoppers." Pastor Dan mentions that we often "exaggerate our difficulties" too. In what ways have you found yourself exaggerating difficulties in your life, similar to the Israelites' report? How can seeing through the "eyes of faith" change your perspective?
2. The sermon states that "faith is learned by seeing things through God's point of view." What are some practical ways we can develop this skill in our daily lives?
3. **Read Hebrews 11:6.** How does your daily life reflect your faith that God exists and rewards those who earnestly seek Him? Share a specific example where your faith has been tested and how you responded.
4. Pastor Dan mentions that faith "doesn't take you out of the storm, but it calms you in the midst of the storm." Share an experience where your faith helped you remain calm during a difficult time.
5. **Read Mark 11:22-23.** What does it mean to have faith in God when facing a "mountain" in your life?
6. Pastor Dan spoke about faith opening the door for miracles. Can you recall a situation where faith allowed you to witness what seemed impossible? How did it affect your relationship with God?
7. **Read Ephesians 3:20.** Reflect on your current dreams for your life, family, or career. How might Ephesians 3:20 challenge or inspire you to seek bigger or more God-centered dreams?

8. **Read 2 Corinthians 4:8-9.** How do these verses offer assurance and encouragement during difficult times? Discuss a time when you felt "hard-pressed on every side." How did your faith provide the perseverance needed to endure tough times?

Practical Applications:

1. **Foundation Check:** Take some time this week to evaluate the foundation of your faith. Are there areas that need reinforcement or rebuilding?
2. **Dream Big:** Write down a God-sized dream for an area of your life (family, career, ministry, etc.). Pray over it daily this week.
3. **Scripture Memory:** Memorize Ephesians 3:20 this week to remind yourself of God's power.
4. **Faith Journal:** Each day this week, write down one situation where you consciously chose to view it through the eyes of faith rather than human eyes.
5. **Mountain-Moving Prayer:** Identify your biggest "mountain" right now. Spend time in prayer each day, asking God to either move the mountain or give you the strength to climb it.

Closing Prayer: *Lord, help us to see life through Your eyes. Strengthen our faith so that we can face life's challenges with confidence in Your power and love. May we build our lives on the solid foundation of Your truth, and may our faith grow as we learn to trust You more. In Jesus' name, Amen.*