

Unshakeable Faith

Mark 4 and 5

Ice Breaker: Faith building activity such as a trust fall or walk through a maze blind folded. Do an activity that will take the focus beyond what you can physically see and to exercise trust.

Aim of discussion: to go beyond “hearing” the word to “doing” the word

Introduction:

- 1 Cor 13:13 “And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love”
- James 2:17 “In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.”
- Heb 11:1 “Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.”
- Faith is the bedrock of being a disciple of Christ.

How does faith grow?

- In Mark 4, Jesus shares several parables on seeds and harvest.
- It starts as a seed/thought/word that is planted in the soil of our hearts.
- Regardless of how small the seed is, it will grow when it is planted.

How do we exercise our faith?

1. Be doers of the Word

- After a chilli plant flowers/fruits, it has to be pruned. This involves cutting the plant at the stem.

- To many, it would be unfathomable that a plant that has grown up should be chopped down. However, this is the message that has been given - do you have the courage/boldness to carry out this word.
- It's not about what is above but the roots that lie underneath.
- What is unseen in the natural can be seen in the spirit. God's word will produce a harvest if you let it grow.

2. Take authority.

- Mark 4:40 "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"
- After hearing all these parables/lessons on faith, the disciples were still filled with fear as they faced the storm. The storm will continue until you take authority/command over it.
- ICC has experienced many miracles as a consequence of declaring authority over the circumstances (i.e weather during the MCC technicolour festival, cancers and illnesses, difficult financial circumstances etc.)

It's not too late.

- Mark 5:21-42
- You can be afflicted with a condition for 12 years but your faith can still heal you.
- Even after the child had passed away, Jesus called the little girl to rise.

"El Olam". The everlasting God.

- Gen 21:33
- Olam means world, universe, eternal, forever, everlasting time, space.
- God's presence transcends time and space. He is, He was and He is to come.
- He is the same God today as He was through time, past and future.

QUESTIONS:

1. What does it mean to have faith?
2. How would you rate your level of faith? How would you grow your faith to another level?
3. Encourage the group by sharing a moment where you were able to trust God completely despite your circumstances.
4. Is there a situation that seems too far out of reach to achieve/come to pass? Do you need a miracle? Share this with the group and be bolstered by the faith of others.

Things to try:

- Challenge yourself to stretch your faith this week. Is there something that God wants you to do that will take you out of your comfort zone? Is it sharing the gospel with someone? Is it trusting Him with your finances?
- Take authority of your impossible situations in your personal altar time and declare a miraculous resolution over it.