



## **LIFEGroups: Feb 2020 – Growing in Faith**

Connect's focus in 2020 is for us to grow in faith as disciples of Jesus Christ, personally and as a church family. There are a number of aspects to this and we'll explore these over the course of the year.

**REFLECTION:** Take a few minutes in your LIFEgroup to consider these initial questions:

- ***Are you praying for 3 people – how's it going?***
- ***What does it mean to you to "grow in faith?"***
- ***In what ways would you be able to identify that there has been growth in your faith?***
- ***How do you plan to be accountable for growing in your faith?***

### **DISCUSSING THE MESSAGE:**

If we are going to grow in our faith, then we need to know where we are at on our journey in faith

**Read Eph 2:8; Rom 12:3; 1 Tim 1:14; Acts 3:16**

- **What do these passages tell us about how we get faith?**
- **How have you encountered faith in your own life?**

#### **1. Faith is a gift from God**

The Cambridge English Dictionary defines faith as "*Great trust or confidence in something or someone*" In the original form of Greek that the New Testament was written in faith is the translation of the word "pistis" which is in noun form (a noun is a naming word: a person, place or thing.) The word for belief is "pisteuo" which is a verb form (a verb is a doing word: an action)

- **What does the difference between a noun and a verb indicate about the difference between faith and belief?**
- **How have you acted on faith and belief in your own life?**

**Read Heb 11:1; Rom 12:2**

- **What do these passages tell us about what faith is?**
- **What changes do you expect or do you think God expects of someone who has faith?**

#### **2. FAITH: is a gift that expects a response...**

**The Billy Graham Association makes the statement that: "Faith has two parts"**

1. Belief that God exists, that He loves us & sent His Son into the world to save us
2. A definite decision not only to believe in our minds that Christ can save us, but to put our lives into His hands and trust Him alone for our salvation.

**Sunday Service 9:30am & 5:30pm**



- **Discuss whether you agree or disagree and why?**
- **What are some ways in which the church is or can be deficient by this definition?**

It was stated that: **FAITH is invisible & made visible when what we BELIEVE is demonstrated by how we ACT on what we believe**

- **Do you agree or disagree and why?**

***Read Luke 17:5; Mark 9:24***

- **What do these passages tell us about faith?**
- **How do you think your faith can develop and grow?**

### **3. Faith can develop and grow**

**FAITH involves every follower of Jesus putting belief into action: seeing by faith, walking by faith and living by faith...**

**Pray** together for growth in faith for the Connect church family in 2020. Pray for unity in the Body of Christ and also for the 3 key people you are praying for. What other things do people in your group need prayer for?

**Sunday Service 9:30am & 5:30pm**