

Dig Deeper @Home – "Gather. Nurture. Make Disciples." Complement to sermon on October 15, 2017 – "Build Faith"

MEMORIZE – Galatians 5: 5-6

For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

READ Galatians 3: 1-14

Questions to ponder/discuss:

- 1. What is this passage revealing about God and what is it revealing about us as humans?
- 2. If the above is true, what needs to change in your life? What will that look like?
- 3. In verse 6, Paul quotes Genesis 15:6. Take time to read Genesis 15: 1-6.a. How old was Abraham in this passage?
 - b. How does knowing his age impact the fact that he believed God's promise?
- 4. In verse 8, Paul references Abraham. We find the story of Abraham in Genesis. Look up and read Genesis 12:1-3, 18:16-21 and 22:15-18
 - a. What do these verses reveal about God's purposes for Abraham?
 - b. What do these verses reveal about the connection between faith and works and how does belief fit into this?
- 5. Read James 2: 14-26. How do you reconcile Paul's words about justification by faith with James' words about faith and works?

Bottom Line – Summarize Galatians 3: 1-14 in your own words



Experiential

Sometimes activities help us to understand and process biblical truths. The one below is a suggestion for how to experience the truths of Galatians 3: 1-14

Building Faith

As people, we generally build faith step by step. From learning to walk, to learning to play a sport to working our first job, our faith builds one step or one day at a time. This process is no different following Jesus. So, create a faith journal or a faith box this week. If a journal, write down events in your life, or in the life of others, that strengthens your faith. Keep a running tally and each time you write something new, take time to reflect on what you have written previously. You can do same idea with a faith box only for a faith box you can put objects in that have meaning as well. You can this either of these by yourself, with your spouse or with your family. The idea is to record when God acts in your life so that as you look back on these events your faith can continue to grow and mature.

SING (suggested songs to sing. Use these or any song you might want to sing)

Our God is Greater

A song of praise for our God who is greater and stronger.

Great is thy Faithfulness – Mennonite Hymnal #534

As you sing this song, let your faith be built by reflecting on God's faithfulness

PRAY

This is a time to gather around for prayer requests and to share how you have seen God at work. It is a time to hear where God is showing up in our lives and where we need Him to help us in our lives.

Sending prayer based on the lesson:

Heavenly Father, with whatever this week brings, we ask that You would strengthen and build our faith. Bring to mind your acts of faithfulness in our lives and the lives of others. Give us courage to share these with others to strengthen and build their faith as well. For your glory, In Jesus name. Amen.