

Why Am I Running?

Week 4 Faith

- **The Bible makes it clear that as believers we should live by faith.**

There's a desire in all of us that longs for a life of significance, a life that is better, a life of recognition.

Paul explains how we as Christians should live.

2 Corinthians 5:7 (NIV)

The first 10 chapters of Hebrews unpack two main themes:

- The Supremacy of Christ = Jesus is Better
- Perseverance in Persecution

Faith is assurance of things hoped for and conviction of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:1-3 (ESV)

Assurance is a God-given confidence in the promises of God. It involves being sure of something.

Romans 10:17 (ESV)

An unshakable confidence:

Confidence of our acceptance in Christ

Confidence of our safety in Christ

Confidence of our eternity in Christ

So assurance is developed through hearing and responding to the Word of God.

The term conviction simply means a firmly held belief.

Faith involves seeing what is unseen.

Hebrews 11:3 (ESV)

Another characteristic of faith is called active faith.

Hebrews 11:4-6 (ESV)

Faith leads us to lives of meaningful action.

God rewards those who seek him.

Hebrews 11:6 (ESV)

God is in the business of rescuing broken people and giving them lives of significance through faith.

God rewards obedience.

Obedience is going public with your faith.

Questions to ask yourself:

- Do you have genuine faith?
- Is your faith driven by the assurance and conviction of God's Word?
- Are you currently living life to gain the approval of culture, or are you living life by faith to walk in the approval of God?
- Are you looking at life through the lens of work or through the lens of faith?

This week, spend some time talking with your family (this could be your spouse, your kids, or your brothers and sisters in Christ) about the following question:

- **In your own words, define "faith."**