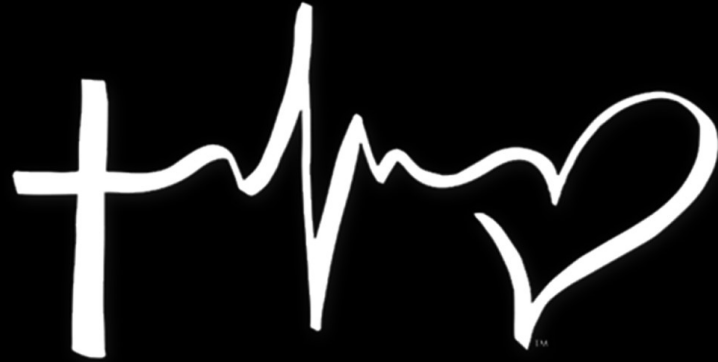


what matters most to God



faith hope love

LEADER'S GUIDE

Series Curriculum Dates:

Faith Matters: March 17th - April 7th

Hope Matters: April 14th - May 5th

Thank you so much for your willingness to be a part of and facilitate this series. This series focus is about what matters most to God, that His children display **Faith**, **Hope**, and **Love**. As you go through this eight week journey if there is anything you need, please reach out to us in the 201 office. We want to see your group be successful. This packet will complete out the small group term for this session on May 5th. Thank you again! Our success in the Groups Ministry of Grace is because of each of YOU!

Kevin S. Price

Don't Forget!!

Go over Group Calendar for next week

Take attendance:

Email attendance sheet:

Kevin: kprice@roswellgrace.com

Jchechani@roswellgrace.com

Take a picture of the attendance sheet and text it to:

Kevin: (479)-234-8082

Turn attendance sheet into 201 offices



~H.O.S.T.~

Pray for your group and discussion time.

Invest yourself into your group members.

Care for your members as a shepherd over their sheep.

Keep us informed about how your group is doing.

~Community Building Questions~

Have you ever started something and then gave up because it was too difficult? Do you now wish you hadn't given up? Explain.

~Growth Discussion Questions~

Central Idea: Faith Preserves: Trials and temptations are inevitable in our lives and God intends both of them to deepen our faith.

Read: James 1:1-12

1. What does James indicate God's purpose is in our trials? Can you think of any other way He could accomplish the same thing? Why not?
2. What does it mean to be a "double-minded" person? What impact would this have on how a person faces trials?

Read: Romans 5: 3-5

1. What two things did Paul say we can rejoice in because of God's grace? Which of Paul's stated reasons for rejoicing is a little tougher for you? Why?

~Prayer~

In a time of group prayer: Thank God He has saved us from our sin and will see us through our sorrow. Ask Him for wisdom in temptation and power to overcome. Ask Him to help us continue to see the fruits of faith in our life.



~H.O.S.T.~

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~Community Building Questions~

When have you seen someone's actions match up with their words, even when doing so was difficult?

~Growth Discussion Questions~

Central Idea: Faith Obeys: If all we do is listen, then we are deceiving ourselves and our religion is useless.

Read: James: 1:19-21

1. What do we communicate to other people when we don't listen well, talk too much or text on our phones while they are trying to talk to us? What happens when these negative traits enter into our relationship with God?
2. Have you ever responded to a particular truth or command from God's Word with resistance of heart and mind? What is the danger in this?

Read: James 1:22-25

1. Why do we often "hear" and not "do" when it comes to Scripture? What does this say about our faith?
2. In what area of your life could you do a better job applying God's Word rather than just listening to it?

~Prayer~

In a time of group prayer: Thank God for His Word, through which He makes your paths straight. Invite God to show you what areas of your life He has been telling you to obey and you have not done it. Commit to trust Him as you see to take necessary steps to obey Him in that.

what matters most
to God



H.O.S.T. GUIDE

Faith Matters #3

3-31-19

~H.O.S.T.~

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~Community Building Questions~

If you have ever volunteered at a soup kitchen or homeless shelter, how did that experience affect you? If you have never volunteered, why haven't you?

~Growth Discussion Questions~

Central Idea: Faith Loves: God gives us a definition of religion and faith that is radically different from what we might contrive.

Read: James 1:26-27

1. What is genuine religion? What three actions does James identify as evidences of genuine religion in verses 26-27?
2. Aren't words just words? Why does James say words are a test of true religion?

Read: James 2:1-7

1. What are the long-term consequences for people when the church is prejudiced?
2. Why is it a mistake for the church to value the rich over the poor (or the poor over the rich)?

~Prayer~

In a time of group prayer: Thank God that His Word lovingly confronts our prejudices and contrived religious ideals. Ask Him to penetrate our hearts and minds with His truth and the power of His Spirit until our lives are a full manifestation of true and acceptable religion that expresses itself through love.

what matters most
to God



H.O.S.T. GUIDE

Faith Matters #4

4-7-19

~H.O.S.T.~

Pray for your group and discussion time.

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~Community Building Questions~

What typically motivates you to action – personal conviction, outside pressure, guilt, duty, other? Why?

~Growth Discussion Questions~

Central Idea: Faith Acts: The kind of faith that does not show itself through good deeds is no faith at all.

Read: James 2:14-19

1. In what way should the lifestyle of a Christian verify his or her faith?
2. How might James' words in verse 14 and 17 cause conflict in the hearts of some who profess to be Christians?
3. How can both of the following statements be true at the same time: "Good works are not the means to salvation" and "Acts of mercy are necessary evidence of salvation"?

~Prayer~

In a time of group prayer: Thank God that acts of mercy are not means to salvation, but a natural overflow of salvation. Ask Him to show you new ways you can demonstrate your faith by works that show His love to a world in need.

what matters most
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H.O.S.T. GUIDE

Hope Matters #1

4-14-19

~H.O.S.T.~

Pray for your group and discussion time.

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~Community Building Questions~

What is one key event that has shaped who you are today? Have you ever thought about what your life would be like if that had never happened? What would be different?

~Growth Discussion Questions~

Central Idea: Resurrection changes everything. Because Christ has risen, we have purpose, grace, and hope that can never be taken away.

Read: 1 Corinthians 15:1-8

1. Why do you think Paul took the time to remind the Corinthians of the gospel? How did he describe the impact of the gospel?

Read: 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 & 32

1. If Jesus was not raised from the dead, then what can we conclude about His life?
2. How can Paul claim that without the resurrection, Christians are the most pitiable people of all?
3. What implications does that statement have about the way a Christian should rightly live?

~Prayer~

In a time of group prayer: Thank God for the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. Pray that we would live with a keen awareness that Jesus is alive, and that this knowledge and belief would impact everything about the rest of our lives.

what matters most
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H.O.S.T. GUIDE

Hope Matters #2

4-21-19

~H.O.S.T.~

Pray for your group and discussion time.

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~Community Building Questions~

Do you have a favorite Easter memory from the past? What made it so special?

~Growth Discussion Questions~

Central Idea: Because Jesus rose from the dead, He has the power to give life-sustaining hope.

Read: John 20:1-10

1. What do these verses show us about the relationship Jesus had with His followers?
2. How were Peter and John's responses once they get to the empty tomb different?
What does this show about each disciple's personality?
3. In your faith journey, have you been more like John, or Mary and Peter?

Read: John 20: 11-20

1. Why do you think Jesus greeted His followers by saying "Peace be with you"?
2. How does Jesus' resurrection remind us that there is not only forgiveness for our past but also hope for our future?

~Prayer~

In a time of group prayer: Thank God for Jesus. Thank Him that Jesus is the living hope of Easter. Pray that just as He brought life from death in His own body, He would bring life and hope to the specific situations your group mentioned.



~H.O.S.T.~

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~Community Building Questions~

What is the connection between endurance and hope? How have you seen this connection play out in your life?

~Growth Discussion Questions~

Central Idea: God provides hope in the middle of the most desperate times.

Read: Isaiah 10:5-14

1. What are the dangers of taking all the credit for your success? What are the dangers of ignoring God's role in your success?

Read: Isaiah 10:15-19

1. What are some things we think we control, when in reality we do not? How does our lack of control remind us of our need for God?
2. What types of things might God use to remind someone that He is God? How does He use our vulnerabilities to bring about His plans and demonstrate His glory?

Read: Isaiah 10:20-27

1. How does the promise of enduring a difficulty give hope to someone who remains faithful to God? How does one's enduring of a difficulty impact a person's faith in God?
2. Which do you believe strengthens a person's faith in God more—an easy life with no difficulty or a life with challenges? Explain.

~Prayer~

In a time of group prayer: Thank the God of hope for always doing what is best for His people. Thank Him for being faithful and trustworthy. Ask the Holy Spirit to help you remain faithful, regardless of the depth of the challenges you face in this life.



~H.O.S.T.~

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~Community Building Questions~

What is hope? What is the difference between biblical hope and mere positive thinking?

~Growth Discussion Questions~

Central Idea: God's design is for believers to have a steady hope that influences their relationships. This hope should impact their lifestyle, so that they respond with gentleness and respect to those who cause them to wrongly suffer.

Read: 1 Peter 3:8-9

1. What five characteristics did Peter identify in verse 8 that should characterize Christians' relationships with one another?
2. What does the corresponding nature of "giving a blessing...that you may inherit a blessing" tell you about a Christ follower's hope?

Read: 1 Peter 3:13-17

1. Peter pulled no punches with those who would read or hear his letter. What ironies or seeming paradoxes do you find in his words?
2. Peter told those who were already suffering, or soon would be, to be prepared to share hope. What does that mean? How do you do that?

~Prayer~

In a time of group prayer: Lead group members to ask God to help them see where their hope is,. Thank God that His design is for us to have a hope that remains constant without regard to changing conditions. Ask Him to help adults prepare to share that hope with one another and with those responsible for whatever suffering they might be experiencing.