

Lectionary Bible Study

For Sunday, August 7, 2022 (Pentecost 9)

Genesis 15:1-6

Discussion Starters

1. What does Abram fear most? Is there anything wrong with needing a little reassurance from time to time? Why or why not? Where in your own life do you need reassurance today?
2. In what way(s) has God already been a "shield" and a "reward" to Abram? What are examples from your own life where God has been a shield and reward?
3. How is faith related to righteousness? How much faith is required to make that happen?
4. Why does God reassure us sometimes, but not all the time?

Hebrews 11:1-16

Discussion Starters

1. Based on these verses, how would you define faith? Is it merely something you believe?
2. What does verse 3 teach us about our response to things we cannot prove or understand?
3. How do the individually identified people (e.g., Abel, Enoch, etc.) cited in these verses demonstrate faith?
4. How does the group of people described in vv. 13-16 demonstrate faith? What is the reward for such faith?
5. What makes their faith worthy of mention in this passage?

Luke 12:22-40

Discussion Starters

1. How does this passage relate to the previous parable (about riches)?
2. Why are birds and flowers good examples for us? How are we supposed to relate to them?
3. What does it mean to "seek" the Kingdom of God? What does it mean to seek it "first?"
4. What does it mean to be "alert?" Alert for what?
5. What is the relationship between watchfulness and worry?
6. Does the unpredictability of the second coming cause you any concerns? What are the benefits and problems associated with not knowing? How can we combat those problems?

WRAP UP

What key insight did you gain from this Bible study? How might it make a difference in how you live today?