

Spread This!

Part 1.0

Spread Contagious FAITH!

Luke 9:43-45

Faith is only needed in times of UNCERTAINTY

Heb. 11:1, 6

Faith is HARDWIRED into God's plan for humanity

Isaiah 55:8-10

Three responses to Jesus' disclosure of the future

- 'But they did not UNDERSTAND this statement.'

Sometimes they simply did not COMPREHEND what God was up to!

- 'And it was CONCEALED from them so they would not perceive it.'

Sometimes they simply were not ALLOWED to understand.

- 'And they were afraid to ASK Him about this statement.'

Sometimes they simply did not WANT to understand.

Let's spread contagious FAITH

- Contagious FAITH is GROWN in the soil of uncertainty.
- Contagious FAITH is MEASURED by my response to issues of uncertainty.
- Contagious FAITH focuses more on the 'WHO' than on the 'What', 'Why' or 'When'.
 - Focusing on the 'What', 'Why', or 'When' leads to FEAR, CYNICISM, or SELF-FOCUSED actions.
 - Focusing on the 'Who' leads to PEACE, CONFIDENCE, and SELF-GIVING actions

We can only spread what we ourselves have CONTRACTED

- SATURATE your mind with the 'WHO': personal WORSHIP, time in the WORD. Col 3:2
- Spend time in FOCUSED prayer to the 'WHO'. Isaiah 26:3
- Take CAPTIVE those fearful thoughts and EXCHANGE them with the 'WHO'. 2 Cor. 10:5
- CONNECT with people who have contagious faith.

Auburn Grace Community Church – April 19, 2020

Life Group Discussion Questions – April 19, 2020

Luke 9:43-45 But while everyone was marveling at all that He was doing, He said to His disciples, "Let these words sink into your ears; for the Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men." But they did not understand this statement, and it was concealed from them so that they would not perceive it; and they were afraid to ask Him about this statement.

QUICK REVIEW

1. Read Ephesians 2:8-9. Whenever God rescues us, He displays His grace. What part does our faith play when God gives His grace? What would happen to our faith if God didn't first move by grace?
2. Believing in Jesus, His teachings and His work on the Cross is so much easier than doing something about it, like surrendering our lives to Him. Pastor Phil gave us three reasons why this is. What are they? What can we do to overcome these stumbling blocks?

MY STORY

1. God is working in and through the pandemic. One way He is working is that through various quarantine decrees, God has slowed the entire world down. God is speaking in this new-found stillness. In a sense, He is giving us "extra" time...time that we didn't have or didn't make before. Has your faith routine changed as a result? In what ways have you taken advantage of this season? How will you be different when the new normal arrives?
2. How can our faith make a difference in the lives of others? What are the benefits of living as a contagious Christian? Do these benefits outweigh the costs? Explain.
3. Who are some people around you that have need for a contagious Christian in their life? What holds you back from sharing your faith with the people you just thought of? What costs might you have to pay?
4. How may we show compassion to the ill, especially the vulnerable? How are we called to sacrifice our rights and privileges for the sake of keeping others safe? In a time when things are shutting down out of fear, what kingdom opportunities may be presenting themselves?

GOING DEEP

1. Read Psalm 118:5-9. In times of uncertainty, Christians have opportunities to show calm and confident resolve that are not rooted in the programs of government. How can we exercise and grow unwavering confidence in God? Make a list of scriptures that affirm we are children of God. As a group, claim these scriptures over each other in prayer.
2. Read 2 Corinthians 10:5. What does "taking your thoughts captive" mean? Are you willing to admit that you can, with God's help, regain control of your thoughts and think enabling thoughts instead of disabling ones? (see Philippians 4:8-9)

PUTTING IT TOGETHER:

1. What do you think are some of the challenges to living out each point?
2. Which of the above teaching points are most important for you to remember?

