



# Heart-to-Heart

## Your Story: When Faith Meets Reality

Week 1 | September 20, 2018

*"Live more by faith than you do by sight. Trust with your whole heart that God has already gone ahead of you, cleared the way, established grace, and answered prayers before you even fully understood just what you needed. Jesus is profoundly invested in your journey. He merely spoke, and the heavens came to be. He speaks now on your behalf because He loves you and is invested in you. Live by faith today, because one day, your faith will become sight and you'll be glad you trusted Him."*

- Susie Larson

**Question:** If a book were to be written about your life so far, or about this season you're in, what might the book or chapter title be, and why?

FAITH: \_\_\_\_\_

Whatever your reality intersects with will \_\_\_\_\_.

"Faith is not the absence of doubt, it's the means to overcome it." - Pastor Steven Furtick

When we \_\_\_\_\_ to trust, letting faith intersect with our reality, it can change everything!

"The original Greek translation of worry means *to be torn apart*; the phrase doubtful mind in Luke 12:29 (KJV) translates to: *being held in suspense*. The English word worry comes from an old Anglo-Saxon (Germanic) word that means *to strangle*." - Liberty Savard, *Shattering Your Strongholds*

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Hebrews 12:2 Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_.

- The journey of following Jesus *starts* with faith.  
Ephesians 2:8
- The journey of following Jesus *continues* with faith.  
2 Corinthians 5:7
- The journey of following Jesus *ends* with faith.  
Revelation 14:12-13

"The writer of Hebrews does not identify himself, but he was obviously well known to the original recipients. Various ideas prevailed among the early church leaders (centering around Paul, Barnabas, and Apollos), but the most famous opinion is that of Origen, who is sorted that 'who it was that wrote the epistle, God only knows.' Even though the name is not known, the letter bears evidence that the author was a second generation Christian, one who is well-versed in the old testament, who may have been a Jew, who was a friend of Timothy, and you probably belong to PAUL's circle of friends. He gives evidence of high literary ability and a style closer to classical Greek than that of any other New Testament writer." - The Amplified Version of the Bible

## Hebrews 10:35-11:3 TPT

<sup>35</sup> So don't lose your bold, courageous faith, for you are destined for a great reward!

<sup>36</sup> You need the strength of endurance to reveal the poetry of God's will and then you receive the promise in full.

<sup>37</sup> For soon and very soon, "The One who is appearing will come without delay!" <sup>38</sup> And he also says, "My righteous ones will live by faith. But if fear holds them back, my soul is not content with them!"

<sup>39</sup> But we are certainly not those who are held back by fear and perish; we are among those who have faith and experience true life!

11 Now faith brings our hopes into reality and becomes the foundation needed to acquire the things we long for. It is all the evidence required to prove what is still unseen. <sup>2</sup> This testimony of faith is what previous generations were commended for. <sup>3</sup> Faith empowers us to see that the universe was created and beautifully coordinated *by the power of God's words!* He spoke and the invisible realm gave birth to all that is seen.

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## **Further Study:**

1. Write your story of faith. When/How did you come to know Jesus? When/How did you begin to grow in your relationship with Him and/or with the Father and the Holy Spirit? What/Who have been the hallmarks of your faith journey? How might God describe your faith?

Once you've written your story, consider reading, or telling it to at least one other person.

2. Faith is not something we try to conjure up. That is religion; trying to earn God's attention or approval through our effort to "have faith." Faith is imparted to us from God who is faithful, think about that word alone. God is faith-full, He's full of faith! Read, meditate and reflect on the following verses about God's faithfulness.

Record in your journal what is revealed to you through these verses about God, His faithfulness and/or about your faith.

- Deuteronomy 7:6-9; 32:1-4
- Psalm 89:1-8; 100:3-5; 146:5-6
- Lamentations 3:19-25
- 1 Corinthians 1:9
- Galatians 5:22-23
- 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24
- 1 Peter 4:12-19
- 1 John 1:5-10
- Revelation 19:11-16

3. Read pages 9-24 in *How to Study Your Bible* to best be prepared for the teaching on the Inductive Study of the Bible next week.
4. Consider memorizing Hebrews 10:35 and/or 11:1