



## BREAKING THE ICE

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What is the hardest physical activity you have ever done?

Did you train for it, if so, what did training look like to accomplish that physical activity?

Looking back now, is there anything you would have changed to prepare you for the physical activity?

## MAIN CONTENT

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This week Pastor Kevin continued the series, What the World Needs Now. He talked about how the world needs faith. Faith is trusting God and believing God. Faithfulness is to keep going, not giving up, and to keep your word. God gives us faith. We give ourselves faithfulness.

Romans 12:3

Faith is a gift from God. Our faith can have a gauge on it. Sometimes our faith gauge is more full than other times.

1. If you could gauge your faith right now, would you say it's closer to empty or full?

Jesus tells us we only need a little faith because our faith is in a really big God who can do more than we can imagine.

If you have been in church for a while, you have probably heard the verse Jeremiah 29:11. This week, Pastor Kevin broke down the story behind that verse.

In the midst of exile and uncertainty for the Israelites, God was telling His people to have faith in Him. People will come and tell you other things, perhaps even things that aren't true to try and rush through the process of uncertainty but hold onto your faith in God. He is the one to help us get through this.

2. Where have you felt God's faithfulness in the midst of uncertainty in your life?

God is telling His people, "I never left you, I have always been here even in the midst of uncertainty and exile." God wants us to continue living our life with Him, even in the midst of the uncertainty. He knows the plans for you, and even in the midst of uncertainty, He wants you to flourish.

3. Where are you in life right now; do you feel like your life is flourishing or barely hanging on? What gives you hope that it will and can be better?

In the midst of our exile and uncertainty, God's gift to us is Jesus. Jesus is our source for hope and a future.

Faithfulness is faith and endurance, the idea to keep going and not give up. Jesus wants to walk with us to help us keep going. But God also puts others in our lives to help us finish well in our times of uncertainty.

Pastor Kevin gave an illustration this week about the mountain he climbed in Colorado and the friend that helped him climb along the way. That friend helped Pastor Kevin finish well.

4. Who has been faithful in helping you finish well in difficult times?

Having faithfulness means to keep taking the next step. Don't worry about tomorrow, just get through today. Take the next step to finish strong. If we have given up, God is still faithful. Faith is a gift from Him. (2 Timothy 2:13).

We can add to our faithfulness by remembering the faithfulness of God; asking God for a vision for our life; and by getting a group of people to help us climb through the times of uncertainty and take the next step.

5. Have you ever asked God for a vision of your life? Did He? If so, what is the vision He gave you for your life?

Pastor Kevin said the longer view you take of your life, the better decisions you make.

6. Where do you need to take a longer view of your life?

We can't be faithful without God but He will always be faithful to us.

7. Where do you need to be reminded of God's faithfulness today?

God is faithful and true. Sometimes we just need to ask Him to remind us of His faithfulness so we can cling to that for our future.

## CLOSING PRAYER

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God, thank you for your faithfulness. You are true. You will never leave or forsake us. Will you show us where we have been unfaithful? Help us receive your forgiveness for where and when we have been unfaithful to you in our lives. Will you help us have faith and trust in you? Will you give us a vision of what you have for our lives, our relationships, our families, and our communities? Surround us with people who can help us finish strong and use each of us to help others finish strong for your glory. In Jesus' name, Amen.

## ACTION STEP

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If you have a friend, family member or co-worker who has been a faithful friend and helped you through tough times, take a minute to write them a note this week and thank them for their faithful encouragement in your life.

Take time to sit with those close to you and ask them how you can help each other finish this season strong. Ask how you can pray for each other and encourage one another. Then follow through with it.

Ask God for a vision for your life. Sit in the quiet and listen to the vision He has for your life. Write it down and if you're comfortable, share it with your group next week.