



### News to Know

#### **Refuge: Wednesday at 6:30**

We're back in the Harbor this week. We'll finish our series on Hebrews 11.

#### **Sunday Morning Small Groups**

We had a great morning with small groups yesterday and saw a lot of students participating. It was encouraging to see! Caleb and Tori Blackburn lead the 9:45 group from 7th-12th Grade guys in Grace Cottage. Angie Jones leads the 7-8th grade girls, Trent Wineberg leads the 7-9th grade guys, Jimbo Miller leads the 10th-12th grade guys, and Freida Mixon and Brittany Myers lead the high school girls at 11:00 in Building B.

#### **Middle School Event: August 23**

We are launching a more focused middle school ministry for 6th-8th graders called "The Bridge." This year, we'll have several Bible Studies and a few events throughout the year. Our first event will be August 23 at 7:00 in The Harbor. This event will be for parents and students so we can tell you all about the ministry! [Sign up here!](#)

#### **DiscipleNow Weekend**

Now that the summer is over and we are focused on the new school year, go ahead and mark your calendars for DiscipleNow 2026. It'll be January 16-18. My goal this year is to have groups of around 6 people, which means I'll need several more host homes. If you're willing to host a small group at your house, please let me know!

## **Refuge this Week**

We will finish our series on Hebrews 11 this Wednesday. In verses 32–40, the writer says he doesn't have enough time to tell the full stories of all the other heroes of the faith. Instead, he lists names and gives quick snapshots of people who were also commended for their faith. This final group can be divided into two categories.

The first group experienced victory over their circumstances. They saw God do the supernatural. They conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched flames, escaped the sword, and even raised the dead. These people faced impossible situations and overwhelming obstacles, and they trusted God for a miracle. And God came through. We're called to that kind of bold faith. We serve the same God, and He still has the power to do the impossible.

The second group experienced victory under their circumstances. Their stories are marked not by deliverance but by suffering. They were tortured, mocked, beaten, imprisoned, stoned, sawn in two, and killed by the sword. They lived in poverty, destitute, afflicted, and mistreated. All of us would love to see God perform a miracle. But sometimes, instead of a miracle, we walk through suffering. And the writer of Hebrews helps us see that sometimes God withholds the answers we long for, not to harm us, but to show us that knowing Him is more valuable and more joy-giving than anything else. In fact, there are times when going through suffering displays the goodness of God even more clearly than a miracle ever could.

In the final two verses, the writer reminds us that our faith points people to Christ. As we live out our purpose on earth, we show the world that Jesus is bigger and Jesus is better. The point of faith

isn't just to make life easier, it's to display the power and worth of God revealed in the gospel. So however God chooses to answer my prayer, and whatever role He calls me to play, my goal is to leverage it to put His glory on display.

### **Resource of the Week**

This week's resource is titled, "Four Ways to Encourage Your Daughter in a Beauty Obsessed Culture." You can find it [here](#).



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