



## Small Group Questions: To Live by Faith, Not by Sight

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### Read

2 Corinthians 4:18 and 5:7; Matthew 15:21-28; James 1:2-4; and Hebrews 11:6

### Reflect

It's often through the dimly lit doorways of our current situations that God leads us to our true purpose. To live rightly through the twists and difficult turns of life, St. Paul says we need a vision tool called faith. In this series, we are identifying four decisions that can help set the tone for the new year and lead to significant change. The first decision was to follow Jesus; the second was to be a good friend. This week, an important choice we can make is to decide to live by faith and not by sight. But how exactly do we do that?

Pastor Greg explained three principles that can help us walk by faith, not by sight:

1. A faith journey sometimes begins with a difficult challenge.
  - a. Oftentimes, we are unaware of our need for faith until we face something we can't control. How did your faith journey begin? What spurred you to take that first step?
2. A faith journey often gets worse before it gets better.
  - a. The initial feeling of being on God's path can be euphoric. Along your faith journey, how did that feeling change or deepen?
  - b. What challenges have you experienced after taking a step of faith? How did you handle it?
3. A persistent faith is always rewarded by God.
  - a. Have you ever experienced God's apparent silence? What purpose do you think it served (or is serving)? How will you choose to view it? Can you give an example of persistence being rewarded?

Pastor Greg suggested several ways we can live by faith this year:

1. Believe God when I don't see it.
2. Obey God when I don't understand it.
3. Give to God when I don't have it.
4. Persist with God when I don't feel like it.
5. Thank God before I receive it.
6. Trust God even if I don't get it.

Which of the above 'resolutions' is the most difficult for you? Why? Did you find yourself hesitating to affirm any of them? What initial steps will you take today to try to amaze Jesus by your faith?

### Respond

- What do you feel like God is asking you to do in response to the weekend message? What is your next step?
- How can your Small Group support you and hold you accountable in this?

