



“Celebrate Faith!”

Celebrate! Series

Pastor Mark

9.15.19

Memory verse: “Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as **living sacrifices** holy and pleasing to God---this is your spiritual act of worship.” Romans 12:1

Faith is: **TOTAL** dependence on God that results in **SACRIFICE**.

Luke 21:1-4

- The widow’s offering is celebrated because it shows that she has a **“MORE THAN”** faith.
 - “More Than” faith looks like **GIVING SACRIFICIALLY**.

Thoughts on giving:

- 1) God **EXPECTS** us to give.
 - Malachi 3:8-10
- 2) God expects us to give **GENEROUSLY**.
 - 2 Corinthians 9:6-7
- 3) We **CAN’T OUT GIVE** God.
 - Philippians 4:19
 - Malachi 3:10

“More Than” faith looks like **LIVING SACRIFICIALLY**.

- Romans 12:1

What are signs we’re living sacrificially for God because of our “more than” faith?

- 1) We’re **SERVING GOD**
- 2) We’re **PLEASING GOD**
 - Psalm 147:11
- 3) We’re **FOLLOWING GOD**
 - Hebrews 11:8-10
 - Ephesians 3:20

C3 Group Questions

Accountability: Were you at church on Sunday to grow & learn? Did you read/listen to the Bible & pray this week on a regular basis? If so, share what stood out to you in your time with God?

Ice Breaker:

Who is someone you know of that you would say has a strong faith? What is it about that person that stands out to you?

Review:

What one thing stood out to you (either helpful, insightful or troubling) from the weekend's message?

Group Discussion:

Read Luke 20:45 - Luke 21:4. How does the poor widow differ from these leaders? What is Jesus' point in making this contrast?

Read 2 Corinthians 9:6-7; Philippians 4:19; Malachi 3:10. Truly having faith in God effects every area of our lives, including our finances. What do these verses say about what God expects from us once we have faith in Him?

Why do you think God puts so much emphasis on our finances once we have faith in Him? Is it because He needs our money? Or is it that He is trying to teach/show us something? Explain.

God is a generous God. He literally gave everything for us so that we can have a relationship with Him both now & on into eternity. Since God is a generous God, what does He expect us to be? Why?

Read Hebrews 11:8-10. Abraham had faith in God & followed God without knowing where God was leading. Is there something in your life where you have, or currently are, following God by faith without knowing exactly where He is leading you? Explain.

How can this group pray for you this week? Who in this group can you pray for this week?

Next Steps: (*"Do not merely listen to the word.....Do what it says."* James 1:22)

Memorize & reflect on this verse this week: *"Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices holy and pleasing to God---this is your spiritual act of worship."* Romans 12:1