

Leaders: Thank you for supporting Zak and the student ministry as they get ready to raise funds for summer camp! If you have not yet connected with Zak about how your group can help provide ingredients for their bake sale, email him at zgraves@harvestsacramento.net before December 13th and he'll get you details.

LEARN

Read Hebrews 11:23-29. What stood out to you from the sermon on Sunday? What was most helpful, encouraging or challenging to your walk with Christ?

Why did Moses “consider the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt”? What has to happen in our lives so this is true of us?

(Moses was looking to the reward of being with God for eternity by faith. He knew suffering in righteousness was better than anything this world could offer. We need of hearts transformed so that we see the same realities and live with this kind of perspective.)

Faith chooses to act upon the Lord's provision. Why is it so important to *act upon God's provision* and not merely acknowledge facts about Jesus?

(Agreeing with facts doesn't save. If we truly believe, we forsake anything else for our salvation and trust God's provision given in the blood of Christ)

PRACTICE

Faith chooses not to give in to fear. How has fear played a negative role in your faith and what encouragement do you get from this passage?

(Fear of man, fear of rejection, fear of the future, etc. – strive for transparent sharing here. Encouragement comes as Moses and his parents didn't fear the king but boldly chose to trust God over fear)

Faith chooses God's path over worldly pleasures. In your daily life, how do you reject the fleeting pleasures of sin?

(Leaders: The goal is to get to helpful, practical ways people battle temptation and sin. How do they pray? What Scriptures have been helpful to them?)

What are tangible examples of acting upon the Lord's provision of the blood stained cross of Jesus?

(Repentance is an important ongoing example! Trusting in Christ for eternal security and not our good works. Obeying even when tempted toward sin. Worshiping Christ in the midst of suffering or trials)

CHANGE

Read Mark 8:34-37 together. Are you currently living in a way that demonstrates this kind of self-abandoning pursuit of following Jesus? Spend time praying together that God would help you prefer Christ, whatever it may mean for you, over all worldly pleasures.

(Leaders: The easy answer is “not enough” or “not perfectly”. Press beyond this to encourage one another in what it means for Christ to be of such value in our hearts that we are transformed to joyfully live in this way)