

Winter Quarter 2017-18

Faith in Action

Faith in Christ

December 3	Faith in Jesus	<i>Acts 3:11-21</i>
December 10	Faith to Discern	<i>Acts 13:1-12</i>
December 17	Faith to Persevere	<i>Acts 14:8-11, 19-23</i>
December 24	Faithful Seekers of the King (Christmas)	<i>Matthew 2:1-12</i>
December 31	Faith to Unite	<i>Ephesians 4:1-16</i>

A Living Faith in God

January 7	A Sincere Faith	<i>Daniel 1:8-21</i>
January 14	A Bold Faith	<i>Daniel 3:19-28</i>
January 21	A Prayer for an Obedient Faith	<i>Daniel 9:4-8, 15-19</i>
January 28	A Strong Faith	<i>Daniel 10:10-19</i>

Godly Faith

February 4	Faith Without Works Is Dead	<i>James 2:14-26</i>
February 11	A Disciplined Faith	<i>James 3:1-12</i>
February 18	Faithful Disciples	<i>Acts 9:36-43</i>
February 25	The Good Fight of Faith	<i>I Timothy 6:11-21</i>

From the moment we hear of the need of salvation, we hear of the necessity of faith. We are taught from the beginning that we do not work for salvation but rather that salvation is by the grace of God through our faith. Faith should not stop there, however, and that is the subject of this quarter's lessons. Faith should be active in daily living as we encounter the situations of life.

The first unit is about having faith in Christ, with lesson 1 emphasizing the need for faith in Jesus and His work on the cross. Lesson 2 examines the importance of discerning faith as demonstrated by Paul when he encountered Elymas the sorcerer. Lesson 3 is about persevering faith. Paul faced severe opposition and stoning in Lystra, but he refused to let this deter him from going on with his ministry.

The Christmas passage, lesson 4, takes another look at the faithful wise men who came seeking the King of the Jews. The unit concludes with Paul's instructions to the Ephesians to be faithful in walking together as God's children.

The second unit becomes more directly applicable to our exercise of living faith with four lessons from the book of Daniel. Lesson 6 reminds us that even as a young man, Daniel (along with his three friends) determined to be pure in sincerely obeying God's instructions, even about the food they ate. Lesson 7 reveals the bold faith of Daniel's friends as they fearlessly faced the fiery furnace of Nebuchadnezzar.

In lesson 8, we listen in on Daniel's heartfelt prayer of confession and request to God to help His people have an obedient faith. Our final glimpse of Daniel shows him in the presence of a heavenly messenger. Daniel initially collapsed in his presence out of weakness but was soon strengthened and enabled to receive God's message.

The third unit describes a deep and godly faith. The two lessons from James remind us that faith without the accompanying evidence of works is useless (lesson 10) and that the control of the untamable tongue requires a disciplined faith (lesson 11). This godly faith is shown in action in lesson 12, where we learn about Peter's call to Joppa following the death of Tabitha. Because of Peter's faithfulness, he was used to raise this woman from the dead. Lesson 13 presents Paul's reminder to Timothy to never give up in the good fight of faith.