

House of Faith: Faith that Moves Us Sermon Discussion Questions – May 28, 2023

Scripture Passages:

Acts 1:3-5- After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Acts 1:8- But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

2 Corinthians 3:18-And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit.

1 John 2:6- The one who says he resides in God ought himself to walk just as Jesus walked.

Romans 12:2- Fix your attention on God. You'll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around

you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

Zechariah 4:10- Do not despise these small beginnings, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin.

Job 23:1-10- Then Job replied: "Even today my complaint is bitter; his hand is heavy in spite of my groaning. If only I knew where to find him; if only I could go to his dwelling! I would state my case before him and fill my mouth with arguments. I would find out what he would answer me, and consider what he would say to me. Would he vigorously oppose me? No, he would not press charges against me. There the upright can establish their innocence before him, and there I would be delivered forever from my judge. "But if I go to the east, he is not there; if I go to the west, I do not find him. When he is at work in the north, I do not see him; when he turns to the south, I catch no glimpse of him. But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold.

1 John 5:4- For every child of God defeats this evil world, and we achieve this victory through our faith.

Warm Up:

This weekend is Memorial Day weekend and a day where we get to remember all those who have died while serving our country. What do you typically do on Memorial Day weekend? How do you honor those who sacrificed their lives for us?

Discussion:

1. Pastor Scott begins Pentecost Sunday by explaining a bit about what Pentecost is. Have you heard of Pentecost before? What do you know about Pentecost?

2. Read Acts 1:3-5 and Acts 1:8. What is the role of the Holy Spirit in empowering us and why is it important for us to have the Holy Spirit in our lives?

3. "God sees us as we are, loves as we are, and accepts us as we are, but by His grace does not leave us as we are" -Tim Keller. What are your initial reactions to this quote? How have you experienced God's grace transforming your life?

4. Read Romans 12:2. How does faith in God and the presence of the Holy Spirit lead to transformation and maturity in our lives?

5. "Transformation is not about where you start; it is being diligent and being dedicated to exercising your faith. Even if it means starting small"- Pastor Scott. What does it mean to start small in faith and how does it contribute to the growth of our faith?

6. Read Job 23:1-10. How can faith help us trust God even in difficult times when circumstances may not make sense?

7. "God wants to meet you at the intersection of faith and obedience. You may have to sacrifice to step out on your faith and obey God."- Pastor Scott. In what ways does faith shift our perspective from defense to offense, and how can we apply this in our spiritual journey?

Next Steps:

Use these questions to help with your conversation or reflection.

- 1. What is the current state of your faith?
- 2. In what ways might God be challenging you to put your faith in action?
- 3. What things might you have to surrender or step into that are making you hesitant to put your faith in action?
- 4. What are some small practical steps you can take to continue to exercise your faith?