



GROUP QUESTIONS FOR **MARCH 29**

Series: *By Faith*

Faith of Everybody Else (Hebrews 11:32-40)

Icebreakers!

1. Share one of the most inspiring stories you've heard. Who's it about? What did they do?
2. Why is it important to remember and to share inspiring stories? What effect do they have on us and on others?

Digging Deeper

3. **Study Hebrews 11:32-40 on the back of this page.** Circle important things you see, and put arrows by anything that could be hard to understand. What big ideas stand out?
4. How does knowing people's stories inspire our courage and support what we know is true? What do we miss when we don't know the stories of God's people in the Bible?
5. **Look at the blue section of the passage.** How does losing faith in God eliminate the possibility of Him doing great things like these in our lives?
6. **Look at the red section of the passage.** What do these people trust about God that makes them brave enough to endure these experiences? What would you have to believe to be brave like this?
7. **Look at the brown section.** What do you believe about God and love enough to defend, even if that belief would make you homeless, poorly clothed, poor or mistreated?
8. **Look at the purple section.** If people were so brave, by faith in God, *before* Jesus came, how brave should God's people be, now that Jesus *has* come? What stories of bravery have you heard about people who trusted in *Jesus*?
9. **What did you hear in the message this Sunday that stood out to you?**
Is there anything you would emphasize, add, or change?

Application

10. Does God expect you to be brave enough for Him to do great things like these through you, by faith in Him? What's keeping you from a faith that's willing to "go there"?
11. How does your bravery for God need to grow, and your fear of this world need to shrink, for you to live a life that matches this list?
12. How will your faith in Jesus lead you to make brave, trusting decisions for God this week?

Hebrews 11:32-40 (ESV)

And what more shall I say? For time would fail me to tell
of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets—
who **through faith** conquered kingdoms,

enforced justice,

obtained promises,

stopped the mouths of lions,

quenched the power of fire,

escaped the edge of the sword,

were made strong out of weakness,

became mighty in war,

put foreign armies to flight.

Women received back their dead by resurrection.

Some were tortured, refusing to accept release,

so that they might rise again to a better life.

Others suffered mocking and flogging,

and even chains and imprisonment.

They were stoned,

they were sawn in two,

they were killed with the sword.

They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated

—of whom the world was not worthy—

wandering about in deserts and mountains, and in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, though commended **through their faith**,

did not receive what was promised,

since God had provided something better for us,

that apart from us they should not be made perfect.