

Study notes based on Sunday 6 May 2018

The Gift of Faith – Graeme Clark

2 Peter 1:1-11

1. Can you think of any everyday definitions or understanding of faith? e.g the small boy who said 'faith is believing what you know ain't true'.
2. What do you make of the reference to faith in this Bible verse? Hebrews 11:1. How does this play out for the 'heroes of faith' described in this chapter?
3. Graeme spoke about each Christian having all the faith they need as a gift from God. He argued that this takes the pressure off us from thinking we don't have enough, or losing it etc. See Ephesians 2:8; Ephesians 1:3 How do you respond to this?
4. Read the story in Matthew 17:1-20. What does this teach us about faith?
5. James says 'Faith without works is dead.' What do you think he means? James 2:14-26.
6. Graeme distinguished between faith and belief. How would you describe the difference?
7. Look at 2 Peter 1:1-11 How do you understand his encouragement to 'add to your faith'? Do you agree with Graeme that this is incremental?
8. See James 1:22; Luke 6:16. Graeme challenges us to have more spiritual aspiration; not to mix good food with poison; to pursue regular obedient action (my interpretation). How do we respond?

John S Smith 9 May 2018