

# **LIVING IN THE STRETCH (January 3rd)**

## **THE COMMUNITY**

1. What was the highlight of your holiday season?
2. How did you grow closer to God through Sunday's Corporate Worship? How did God reveal Himself more to you? What did you learn from the people, the music, the sermon and/or through serving?

## **THE BIBLE** (*Websites - biblegateway.com, blueletterbible.org, biblos.com, ccel.org*)

3. Read Hebrews 11:1-40. Use the websites above to read it in different versions. What observations do you have? What words or phrases stand out to you?
4. According to Hebrews 12:1-2, what actions are to be taken to "live in the stretch"?

## **THE APPLICATION**

5. In what area(s) of your life are you “settling into” like a resident instead of anticipating, encouraging and embracing change like a stranger?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What is your attitude toward change? Why? Give examples.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. What is your typical response to being stretched (our muscles, time, resources, faith)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. In what way(s) are you being stretched in your faith journey?  
In the way you see and trust God?

## SERMON NOTES

I. \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

### Hebrews 11:1

Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see. (NLT)

A. \_\_\_\_\_ of faith.

B. \_\_\_\_\_ is pleasing to God.

### Hebrews 11:6

And it is impossible to please God without faith. (NLT)

II. \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_.

### Hebrews 11:8-9

It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going.<sup>9</sup> And even when he reached the land God promised him, he lived there by faith—for he was like a foreigner, living in tents. And so did Isaac and Jacob, who inherited the same promise. (NLT)

A. Faith \_\_\_\_\_ requires change in our lives

B. Things that \_\_\_\_\_ change.

C. Things that will \_\_\_\_\_ change.

D. Possessing an \_\_\_\_\_ of change.

III. \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Hebrews 12:1-2**

Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a huge crowd of witnesses to the life of faith, let us strip off every weight that slows us down, especially the sin that so easily trips us up. And let us run with endurance the race God has set before us.<sup>2</sup> We do this by keeping our eyes on Jesus, the champion who initiates and perfects our faith.... (NLT)

A. \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Ephesians 4:3**

Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. (NLT)

B. \_\_\_\_\_.

C. \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Matthew 14:31**

You have so little faith,” Jesus said. “Why did you doubt me?”  
(NLT)

## **SMALL GROUP PRIMER**

*Small Groups are a place to live life in community as a people developing to love and worship God through actively engaging in the intersection of God’s word and our daily life.*

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*Join our “Small Group Life at Coastal” Facebook page for updates and encouragements about spiritual growth, authentic life and biblical community.*