

Leader Guide

Here I AM

Spring 2025 | Week 5

Message Date 5/4/2025

THE GOAL

This week's study is centered on the theme **"Faith Wins the Battle."** We're looking at examples of faith from Hebrews 11 and comparing two kings—Saul and David—as we examine how faith shapes our actions, trust, and path. In 1 Samuel, we see Jonathan stepping into the battle with faith that Saul lacked. The New Testament gives us greater clarity on what battles we face and the spiritual weapons we use to overcome them. Our goal this week is to help your group identify the real battles in their lives, understand what it means to fight those battles with faith, and take steps toward standing firm in Christ.

MY STORY

- 1) You get to spend 24 hours in one part or story of the Old Testament. Where would you go? What would you want to see or experience?
- 2) You can turn into an inanimate object for a day, what do you turn into and why?

QUICK REVIEW

- 3) What caught your attention from Sunday's message?

DIGGING DEEPER / TAKING IT HOME

Read Hebrews 11:1–11

- 4) In Hebrews 11, how did Abel, Noah, and Abraham demonstrate faith through action? What did their faith cost them—and what did it produce?

Abel brought a better offering out of sincerity and love for God, which cost him his life but gained him God's approval. Noah built the ark before any sign of rain, facing ridicule, but preserved humanity and animals through obedience. Abraham left his homeland without knowing his destination, which meant leaving behind comfort and

security—but he became the father of faith. Faith produces legacy, righteousness, and a deeper relationship with God.

5) The message challenged us with the idea: “Faith is WHY they acted, trusted, and chose a path others didn’t.” How have you experienced this in your own life?
(Justin) I got a degree in apologetics that people told me would be a waste of my time. This should be a fun question.

Read 1 Samuel 13:19–14:23

6) In 1 Samuel 14, Jonathan took initiative to engage the enemy with only his armor-bearer and faith in God. What can we learn from his example?
Faith sometimes means moving forward without full assurance—just trust that “perhaps the Lord will act.” True faith is contagious—his armor-bearer followed him in faith. God can deliver through a few just as easily as many.

7) Compare Saul’s leadership to Jonathan’s. How did their faith (or lack of it) show up in how they approached conflict?
Saul hesitated, waited on people, and acted from fear and appearance. Jonathan acted in quiet confidence, trusting God more than numbers or weapons. Saul relied on position; Jonathan relied on relationship with God.

8) Read Ephesians 6:10–18. Go through the “armor of God” piece by piece. Which one do you personally need to strengthen most in your life right now?
Keep this conversation simple. (Justin) I need the shield of faith. as I am embarking into a new season of life.

9) Form his message, Pastor Craig challenged us with the question “*What ground do you need to stand firm on?*” How would you answer that today?
Some examples may include, refusing to walk away from a hard relationship. Trusting God in a financial season. Staying committed to purity, forgiveness, or truth under pressure.

CHAIR TIME TOOLS

Reflection Questions for Chair Time: think about the following questions and pray through them with Jesus.

- 1) What spiritual battle are you facing right now? Name it.
- 2) How can you “put on the full armor of God” in your specific situation?
- 3) Which part of your faith feels weak right now—your trust, your obedience, your perseverance? Bring that before God.