

Bay City Wesleyan Church
July 5, 2020

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Sunday Morning 07-05-2020 ONLINE & IN PERSON
BIG FAITH may look small to us but trusting Jesus to be who he claims to be and to do what he promises to do will transform the world.
<http://bible.com/events/22972990>
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Champions of Hope
New here? Click on the link below to find out how to join our church's Facebook group -- Champions of Hope.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/infusinghope>

Online Giving with Tithe.ly
Please, set up your account at Tithe.ly or download the Tithe.ly app for your phone. Follow the directions given at the website or in the app. Once you've set up your account with Tithe.ly, click on the link to worship Jesus by giving to his church. If you'd prefer to mail a check to the church, our address is--Bay City Wesleyan Church 506 W North Union Street Bay City MI 48706
<https://tithe.ly/give?c=1331999>

Bay City Wesleyan Church Public Gathering Information

- If you are sick or have been exposed to someone who is sick, do not come to the church building. Thank you.
 - We will continue to live stream Sunday Morning Worship on Facebook. Recordings are available both online and on CDs or DVDs. The Wednesday Prayer times and devotionals will still be posted online as well.
 - Childcare will not be provided at this time. The Nursery will be closed. Children do not understand and will not practice physical distancing.
 - A locked offering box will be provided next to the center doors to the worship area. You can continue to use Tithe.ly or to mail checks as well.
 - Some seats will be roped off. We recommend families sit together.
 - Masks are not mandatory, but Pastor Mark recommends that you wear one. If you can bring your own, please do so. But masks will be available. After use, worshipers may take masks with them or deposit them in a container to be cleaned for reuse.
 - We will provide hand sanitizer and facial tissues as much as possible. If you can bring your own, please do so.
 - There are germ-killing soaps in restrooms.
- For more information, please check the posts in the CHAMPIONS OF HOPE group on Facebook.

How different would your outlook on life be if you were absolutely convinced that God was for you? How differently do you think you would respond to circumstances in your life if you were sure that God was in all of it and was planning to influence it for your benefit? In other words, what would it be like to have BIG FAITH?

Series: BIG FAITH

Text: Luke 9:10-17

Title: Acts of Trust - Making Sense of Jesus Invitation to Care for Others

This is the fifth part of our series on BIG FAITH.

BIG FAITH believes God is who he claims to be and that he will do everything he has promised.

The 5 things Jesus uses to grow BIG FAITH are:

1. Practical Teaching
2. Providential Relationships
3. Private Disciplines
4. Personal Ministry
5. Pivotal Circumstances

The Backstory:

Luke 9 opens with Jesus calling his twelve closest disciples aside. He gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases. Then they departed and went throughout the villages, announcing that God's Kingdom had come and healing people all over the place.

Luke 9:10-17 NIV

10</small> When the apostles returned, they reported to Jesus what they had done. Then he took them with him and they withdrew by themselves to a town called Bethsaida, 11</small> but the crowds learned about it and followed him. He welcomed them and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed healing. 12</small> Late in the afternoon the Twelve came to him and said, "Send the crowd away so they can go to the surrounding villages and countryside and find food and lodging, because we are in a remote place here." 13</small> He replied, "You give them something to eat." They answered, "We have only five loaves of bread and two fish—unless we go and buy food for all this crowd." 14</small> (About five thousand men were there.) But he said to his disciples, "Have them sit down in groups of about fifty each." 15</small> The disciples did so, and everyone sat down. 16</small> Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke them. Then he gave them to the disciples to distribute to the people. 17</small> They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over.

<https://bible.com/bible/111/luk.9.10-17.NIV>

Two reasons for Jesus to say, "You give them something to eat."

First, the people were hungry.

Second, the disciples' faith in Jesus needed to grow

What's stirring up compassion in you?

Jesus's compassion creates action not paralyzing fear.
Jesus's compassion produces a non-stop noticing of a need. His compassion generates a relentless invitation to care for others.

Were they making an excuse or a confession? [Do we make an excuse or a confession?]

We make excuses when we lean toward trimming down Jesus's commands to fit our limited abilities.

We make confessions when we refuse to trim down Jesus's commands.

How can you make sense of Jesus's invitation to care for others?
What can you do when he asks you to serve as the answer to your prayers for them?

Sermon in a Sentence:

When you do what you know to do, you can trust Jesus to do what only he can do.

The Lessons for Us

Caring for others in Jesus' name requires BIG FAITH.

Jesus must issue the invitation.

FIRST STEPS:

- Pray about the needs you see around you, for the people who need to know Jesus.
- Listen for Jesus' invitation
- Give Jesus your limited resources
- Do what you can do
- Trust Jesus to do what only he can do

You cast the deciding vote on whether you're going to build your faith by helping others. What will you do?