

[Faith Journey]

Monday, 07-27-09 – Read Luke 17:5-8

My Observations _____

A Question to Answer: The disciples, who have seen Jesus' miracles, have heard his teaching, and have lived their lives in community with him were still asking for increased faith. Jesus didn't tell them how to do it, he told them what the results of faith could be. Have you ever asked God for an increase in faith? What have been some of your deepest times of faith?

Tuesday, 07-28-2009 – Read Hebrews 11:1-2

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: This is the Bible's definition of faith. The chapter then goes on to talk about the faith of some of the people in the Old Testament and this chapter has been called the "Hall of Faith." Who are the people in your life that you have witnessed live out of their faith?

Wednesday, 07-29-2009 – Read Matthew 14:22-31

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: Peter jumped out of the boat to walk on the water with Jesus. Then he started seeing the waves crashing around him. Reality crashed in, and he realized that he was doing the impossible and he began to sink. I don't think God is asking us to not use logic or thought, but He does

want us to believe that he can make the impossible possible. Is it easier to have faith when things are going easy in our life or when things are going horribly wrong?

Thursday, 07-30-2009 – Read Luke 9:37-43

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: This is another example of Jesus talking about the lack of faith of the disciples. Verse 43 is the verse I love the most out of this passage. Have you ever been just amazed at the greatness of God? When? What was going on?

Friday, 07-31-2009 – Read Matthew 8:22-27

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: Again I want to emphasize that the disciples were with Jesus 24/7. They were with him in the flesh. And they still had doubts at times. What are your doubts? What do you feel God thinks about our doubts?

Saturday, 08-01-2009 – Read Matthew 8:5-10

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: This is a little different response of Jesus. He had been talking about people's lack of faith and

now he talks about this guy, who is not Jewish, who has the greatest faith he had ever seen. What is the difference in this man's attitude and approach to Jesus then some of the others we have seen over the past few days?

Sunday, 08-02-2009 – Read Luke 17:7-10

My Observations: _____

A Question to Answer: This is the finish of the passage from earlier in the week when the disciples asked Jesus for more faith. Jesus tells them a story about a servant and how he should behave with his master. It's interesting that Jesus would tell this story when asked how to increase faith. I know in my life, some of my deepest times of faith weren't when I was in a worship service. It wasn't when I was reading the Bible or praying, it was when I was serving God by serving others. I think when we are helping others, God makes his presence more known to us. I think this is a way to increase our faith. How can we implement this into our lives in a more regular way?

My Faith Journal, July 26, 2009
[How to Increase My Faith]

What do I hear God saying to me today?

What action do I intend to take this week?

Each day this week, take a few minutes. Begin with PRAYER. Then READ through the Bible passage indicated on the inside of this guide. WRITE down your own thoughts, reactions, observations. ANSWER THE QUESTION to begin connecting the Bible with your life. Use additional paper or your own notebook if you need more space to write.