

## WEEK OF

September 5

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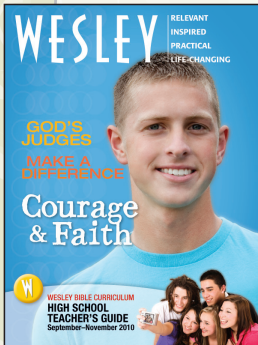
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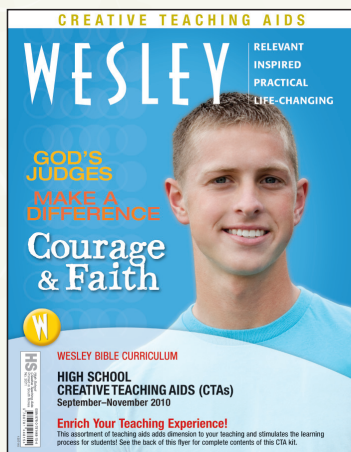
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# Materials for your High School Class



## High School Teacher Guide

Each of the 13 lessons contains step-by-step instructions to help you prepare and teach, with Bible background, tips for teaching high schoolers, and a variety of activities to help your students learn and apply the Bible lesson. Need one per class.



## High School Creative Teaching Aids

This packet contains a variety of posters, games, 3D models, puzzles, and more. Need one per class.



## I.D.

This student book contains eight pages for each lesson including Bible studies, stories and articles. As a bonus, each book contains a six-day devotional schedule for your students. Need one per student.



**Free!** Downloadable Options for Steps 1 and 4

- The latest in pop culture.
- News that just happened.
- Relevant subjects from today's world that are rarely talked about in Sunday school!

[www.wesleybible.com/reallife](http://www.wesleybible.com/reallife)



# Bring the Bible to Life for Teens

Use our proven, effective 4-step lesson plan.  
Here's how it works:

## STEP 1

Connecting with God's Word

Scripture makes it clear that God puts priority on relationships. We grow the most spiritually when we are in relationship with others. Or, as the youth ministry adage goes: You have to open the kid before you open the Book. Step 1 gives you and your students a chance to share about yourselves and your lives, and encourages them to be active participants in your discussion. You'll make real-life connections between their lives and what the Bible says. These conversations will flow naturally into Step 2, your Bible lesson.

**Online Is Where It's @**  
For more teacher resources,  
visit [www.wesleyan.org/wph](http://www.wesleyan.org/wph)

## STEP 2

Studying God's Word

God reveals Himself to us through His written Word. In Step 2, you'll study God's story. You'll dive into a portion of God's Word and then review it together. You'll lead the lesson by asking relevant questions so your students will not only understand what they've just read, but also realize how the story and its truths connect to their lives. Through this step, you'll be able to make sure your students engage in a fruitful discussion about the Bible at a meaningful level.

## STEP 3

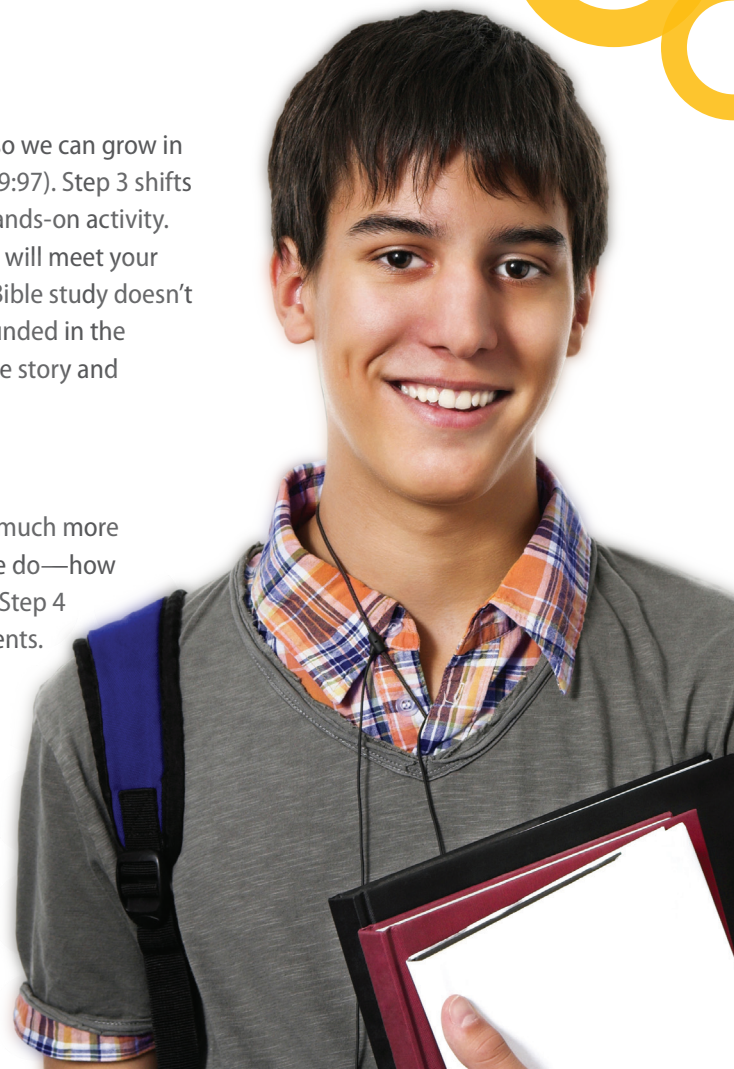
Interacting with God's Word

God asks us to internalize His Word so we can grow in relationship with Him (Psalm 1:2; 119:97). Step 3 shifts your lesson from a discussion to a hands-on activity. Different activity options allow you to choose the one that will meet your students at their levels—and their interests—so that the Bible study doesn't just go in one ear and out the other. By doing activities founded in the Bible lesson, your teens will actively work through the Bible story and interact with the text.

## STEP 4

Applying God's Word

The Bible makes it clear that faith is much more than a list of beliefs. It's also what we do—how we live out what we say we believe. Step 4 is a way for you to encourage life application by your students. Together you'll recap what you've learned and help your teens carry the Sunday school lesson into the rest of their week. You'll be able to provide them with practical suggestions for ways to live out their faith in real life so they will be doers of the Word, not just hearers.



# Supply List

## Needed for Every Lesson

- Creative Teaching Aids*
- ID*
- Bibles

## Classroom Supplies

- Index cards
- Paper
- Pens or pencils
- Whiteboard
- Whiteboard markers

### Lesson 1

- Watch/clock with a second hand

#### Optional

- Internet access (through a computer, laptop, or mobile Internet device)

### Lesson 2

- Hat
- Dollar Bill
- Slips of paper
- Construction paper
- Permanent markers
- Tape
- Large paper stars

### Lesson 3

- Yarn

#### Optional

- Wire hangers

### Lesson 4

- Pillows or cushions
- Blindfold
- Small pebbles in a box

#### Optional

- "Don't Touch" sign
- Plate of brownies

### Lesson 5

- Newspapers and magazines
- Butcher paper
- Notepad
- A 10x mirror
- Game markers

#### Optional

- "Enter w/ Courage" sign
- Voice recorder
- Internet access (through a computer, laptop, or mobile Internet device)

### Lesson 6

- Jar
- Rocks to fill the jar (3 or 4 of them painted)
- Butcher paper
- Large books
- Tweezers

### Lesson 7

- Piece of bread
- Small basket and bowl
- Butcher paper
- 2 steel wool cleaning pads

### Lesson 8

- Voice recorder
- Colored paper
- Butcher paper
- Small basket

### Lesson 9

- No additional materials needed

### Lesson 10

- Magazines
- Balloons
- Watch/clock with a second hand
- Permanent markers
- Bowling pin or post

### Lesson 11

- Poster board

#### Optional

- Bag full of various items

### Lesson 12

- Newspapers and magazines
- Glue
- Posterboard
- Small notebook or 5 sheets of paper stapled together for each student

### Lesson 13

- Chairs
- Miniature candy bars in a small, resealable bag



# lesson 1

## Bible Basis:

Hebrews 11:23-28

## Focus:

Step out in faith.

# Faith Steppin'

## STEP 1 Connecting with God's Word

Stepping out: Your teens will talk about times in their lives when they have stepped out of their comfort zones.

- Internet access (optional)

## STEP 2 Studying God's Word

Learning about Moses' faith: Your teens will study God's Word to see how Moses, and his parents, stepped out in faith.

- Bibles, copies of *I.D.*, pens, paper

## STEP 3 Interacting with God's Word

Relying on God: Your teens will practice ways they can step out in faith.

- paper, copies of *I.D.*, pencils, 2 chairs
- "Hebrews 11:1" poster from *High School Creative Teaching Aids*
- watch/clock with a second hand

## STEP 4 Applying God's Word

Taking a faith step: Your teens will make decisions to step out in faith when tough situations arise in their lives.

- no materials needed

## Memory Verse

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

—Hebrews 11:1

indicates items you will need to prepare before class

## UNDER- STANDING THE BIBLE

When Moses was a baby (possibly about 1520 B.C.), his Hebrew mother hid him among the reeds of the Nile to save him from death by Pharaoh's soldiers. When Pharaoh's daughter drew Moses out of the water, Miriam, Moses' sister, witnessed the event and offered her mother as a nurse. (Moses' Hebrew name Mosheh means "drawn out.") Later, Moses' mother returned him to Pharaoh's daughter, who raised and educated him among Egyptian nobility.

Forty years later, Moses killed an Egyptian and fled to Midian, where he married and became a shepherd. Another 40 years passed before God commanded Moses to return to Egypt to deliver His people from bondage. After the Lord demonstrated His strength to Pharaoh by sending plagues on the Egyptians, Pharaoh agreed to let the Israelites go. Moses spent another 40 years leading the Israelites through the Sinai wilderness. God, however, did not allow Moses to enter the promised land with his people.

Moses was a descendant of Levi, one of the 12 sons of Jacob. He served the people of Israel as deliverer, leader, prophet, and lawgiver. Through him, the Lord conveyed the Ten Commandments and numerous other laws. According to Jewish and Christian tradition, Moses is regarded as the author of the first five books of the Bible—the Pentateuch.

# Teacher Devo



Moses was afraid—he had fled Egypt to save his life. Now God wanted him to return to Egypt to help the Israelites break free from slavery. Moses tried to argue with God, saying, “What if they do not believe me or listen to me?” (Exod. 4:1). Moses finally stepped out, overcame his fear, and trusted God. As a result, Moses is remembered as a person of faith.

God may ask you to do something that takes tremendous courage. Faith means believing that God knows best and that He will provide everything you could ever need. Having faith in God, through Jesus, will give you strength to carry out His plans.

Describe a time when you stepped out in faith.

How did this strengthen your relationship with God? In prayer, thank God for being your source of strength as you step out in faith.

## CLASSROOM TIPS

The story of Moses is quite dramatic. Take some time to read the complete Old Testament account so you can tell the full story of Moses. Your teens will be surprised by how many of the details they either didn't know or have forgotten over time.

Don't forget to emphasize that all of this really happened. It isn't fiction or allegory. Recent archaeological finds in Egypt give new evidence to support this story—a story that Bible-believers have known to be true for centuries.

One way to capture some of the drama of the story may be to show clips from some of the movies that have been made about Moses' life and the Exodus. Preview DVDs or video scenes you might wish to show in class to help tell the story more vividly.

Do make sure, however, that what emerges from your storytelling is how God accomplished His purposes through Moses' faith.

## WHEN TEACHING THE BIBLE TO TEENS . . .

High schoolers don't believe everything adults say just because the older folks have been around longer. Teens need concrete evidence and proof validated by logic and experience! Since today's youth live in a society that has encouraged them to be independent, skeptical thinkers, faith may be a new and difficult concept for some teens. Why should they believe in God just because God says so? How can they know He's right?

Your task is to show your students that believing and trusting Jesus Christ is not a blind leap. God has done much to prove His power (e.g., creation) and His love (e.g., sending His Son to die for us). When it comes time to trust God by obeying something we don't understand, we must look at what He's already done for us.

Then, as we step out in faith, we learn from our own experience that the teachings of the Bible make sense.

As a teacher, you can make God's Word believable for your teens by sharing personal experiences that provide insight into His character. If you don't have all the answers, say so. Teens need to understand that God can't always be explained but He can always be trusted.

They will also respect the notion that trusting God by obeying Him is something that has to be tried to be understood. Teenagers are hungry for experiences. Presenting faithful obedience to God as an experience that will change their lives may be just the motivation that draws them into courageous acts of faith.

# STEP 1

Connecting with God's Word

## Lesson Focus:

Step out in faith.

### BEFORE CLASS OPTION

Write the word "Risks" on a whiteboard. Have markers available for teens to write down different risks teens take. (Skydiving, bungee jumping, witnessing to non-Christian friends, cheating, and shoplifting are examples of risks.)

LES. 1

**Link to Last Week** Allow your teens to talk about ways they were able to remain faithful to their Bible studies this past week.

**Your teens will talk about times in their lives when they have stepped out of their comfort zones.**

### Materials:

- Internet access (optional)

Begin by having students form pairs, and ask each pair to brainstorm situations that require faith—as many as they can. Tell them that for now they don't need to have a singular definition for faith; also, they shouldn't linger on any one situation. Give them a minute and have them rattle off numerous situations that require faith. After the minute is up, discuss:

- **What kinds of situations did you list?** (*Students may say anything from skydiving to sitting in a chair praying to telling a friend a secret.*)
- **Single out three to five completely different situations or scenarios, and repeat them aloud.**
- **How would you describe why faith is needed in each of these situations? Would it be the same kind of faith or a different kind? Do you think there are different kinds of faith? Explain your answer.**
- **How would you even define what faith exactly is?**
- **Would you describe faith as being more tangible or intangible? Why?**

If you have access to the Internet or a mobile Internet device, go to [youtube.com](http://youtube.com) and search for "Indiana Jones leap faith" to watch the leap of faith scene from *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade*. In this short clip, Indiana Jones must figure out how to cross a seemingly empty crevasse. Watch the scene with your students (if you have a very large group and no projection system, rotate two smaller groups through the viewing.)

After watching the clip, discuss.

- **Why did Indiana Jones' action qualify as "faith"? Why might it not qualify as "faith"?** (*Students might argue that since he didn't have a proven reason for taking the step, it wasn't really faith—just a brave guess.*)
- **How do you think faith in God is like or unlike Indiana's leap? How would you describe a faith in God to someone else?**
- **What is your response to the idea of a personal relationship with God that centers around faith? What might this faith compel you to do? Why?**
- **What do you think God wants us to do with our faith? Why? Give an example.**

Sometimes the word "faith" can seem like a really vague concept. We kind of know what it means, but we're not always sure where it comes from, how we get it or use it, or what it looks like in the context of our everyday lives. Sure, we definitely have an active faith in some things: gravity, for instance. But what about a faith in God? What does it mean to have an active faith in the One who created us and everything else? The One who died on the cross to take away the penalty for our sins? Living out our faith isn't always a big, dangerous thing like crossing a dangerous abyss. But our task today is to dig into how we, in our often-normal lives, can step out in faith the way God wants us to. Let's start figuring that out now.

**real life**

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# STEP 2

Studying God's Word

## Bible Basis:

Hebrews 11:23-28  
Step out in faith.



### MORE BIBLE INFO

In Egypt's 18th dynasty (when Moses was born) the pharaoh who ruled is believed to have been Thutmose III (according to traditional reckoning). At the time of the Exodus, the pharaoh was probably Thutmose's son, Amunhotep II, who succeeded his father to the throne. Thutmose's daughter, who adopted Moses, may have been Hatshepsut, who later became a famous queen of Egypt.

**Your teens will study God's Word to see how Moses, and his parents, stepped out in faith.**

### Materials:

□ Bibles, copies of *I.D.*, pens, paper

The writer of the Book of Hebrews attempted to illustrate faith by writing brief sketches of men and women who served God in faith.

Explain to your teens: **Moses was a person of faith who the writer of Hebrews chose as an example for Christians.**

Distribute copies of *I.D.* Have volunteers read aloud the introduction on page 4 and the Lesson Scripture on page 5. Ask the following:

- 1 **What was Moses' parents' act of faith? What were Moses' three acts of faith described in this passage?** (*Moses' parents weren't afraid of the king's edict. They risked death to save Moses' life. Moses demonstrated faith by choosing not to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter, by not fearing the king's anger and leaving Egypt, and by keeping the Passover.*)

Divide the class into small groups. Have groups discuss the first three *I.D.* questions among themselves. After groups have finished, come together as a class and answer the three sections of question 4. (Answers to *I.D.* questions can be found on page 12.)

Finally, have each teen complete question 5. Here, your students will skim the Scripture passage, underline the phrase "by faith" every time it appears, and write a sentence summarizing the point they thought the writer of Hebrews wanted to make about faith. Allow time for teens to discuss their answers. If time permits, discuss the following questions:

- 1 **The word "Passover" is mentioned in verse 28. Can anyone describe this event?** (*Have someone look up Exodus 12:3, 6-7, 12-13 and read these verses aloud. Explain that these instructions had to do with the final plague God brought about to deliver His people from slavery in Egypt. Each family was to pick out a lamb about a year old that was perfect in health and appearance. They were to keep the lamb separate from the flock, and after four days kill the lamb. Then they were to take some of the blood and put it on the sides and top of their doors. God then passed over the homes with the blood and the firstborn in that house did not die.*)
- 1 **How is Passover similar to what Jesus did when He died on the cross for our sins?** (*Jesus was called "the Lamb of God." He was sacrificed—and His blood was shed—so that all who trust in Him have eternal life. In fact, Jesus is the final Passover lamb, taking away the need for any more animal sacrifices.*)
- 1 **Why do you think Moses' parents (Hebrews 11:23), and later Moses himself (vs. 27), were not afraid of the king?** (*They were trusting in someone more powerful than Pharaoh—God Himself. Why fear man when God is in control?*)

**Moses and his parents trusted in God and stepped out in faith. You can too! Let's practice ways we can step out in faith in our daily lives.**

3. Moses had faith in God.

- 4c. • verse 23 (Moses' life was spared.)
- verses 24-26 (Moses gained heavenly treasure.)
- verse 27 (Moses persevered with God's help.)
- verse 28 (Moses gave instructions for the first Passover, which resulted in saving the firstborn sons of the Hebrew people.)



**T**he Hebrews were having a population explosion, and it was making the pharaoh of Egypt nervous. What if these people, who worshiped a different God than the Egyptians, joined Egypt's enemies during a war? Pharaoh acted quickly and made the Hebrews slaves.

But the more God's people were oppressed, the more their numbers grew. Outraged, Pharaoh ordered that every Hebrew boy should be drowned immediately after birth.

It would have been bad news for a newborn boy named Moses had not his mother acted in faith (see Exodus 1:22—2:2). Let's look more closely at these faith steps, including the ones Moses took as his faith in God increased.

**LESSON SCRIPTURE**

**Hebrews 11:23-28**

<sup>23</sup>By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.

<sup>24</sup>By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. <sup>25</sup>He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy

the pleasures of sin for a short time. <sup>26</sup>He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. <sup>27</sup>By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. <sup>28</sup>By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.

# Faith steps

**1.** Read Hebrews 11:23-28. Look at verse 23 again. What prompted Moses' parents to defy the king's edict?

Growing up in Pharaoh's court, Moses learned to read the great literature of Egypt. He must have known about Egyptian customs and sacred myths. He was educated to become someone great in Pharaoh's court.

But Moses also learned the history

of his own people. He learned about Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Moses never forgot. Though his mind had been filled with Egyptian facts, Moses was still a Hebrew. And his God was the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

**2.** Why did Moses refuse to be called a prince and refuse to receive the pharaoh's treasures? (Heb. 11:24-26)

**3.** What kept Moses from buckling under Pharaoh's anger? (Heb. 11:27)

**4.** Each of Moses' steps, taken by faith, cost something. What did it cost Moses to step out in faith? (Heb. 11:25-26)

In the long run, what did Moses gain?

- Verse 23
- Verses 24-26
- Verse 27
- Verse 28

**5.** Skim today's Scripture passage and underline the phrase "by faith" every time it appears. Write a sentence to summarize the point you think the writer of Hebrews wanted to make about faith.

1. They believed their son was extraordinary.

2. Moses identified himself as one of the Hebrews.

4a. He was mistreated, disgraced, and did not enjoy Egypt's treasures.

4b. He led Israel out of bondage; exhibited faith in God; became a role model for future generations.

5. Answers will vary.

# STEP 3

Interacting with God's Word

**Your teens will practice ways they can step out in faith.**

In this section, your teens will have a choice of three activities on ways they can step out in faith in their daily lives. In "Creation v. Evolution" your students will read an article in *I.D.* and discuss how they can live out their faith in school. In "Faith for All Situations" your students will view a poster from *High School Creative Teaching Aids* and sketch a picture. In "Act It Out" your students will play a game in which pairs of students will talk about ways they would step out in faith in response to various situations.

To introduce this interaction step, explain:

**As Moses' life demonstrates, stepping out in faith isn't easy. There are risks and challenges! Sometimes God will lead us through very difficult times. He didn't promise life would be easy—only that He'd be there with us.**

**The following activities will allow you to practice and explore what stepping out in faith could mean in real-life situations.**

**TIP** You may wish to set up for Step 4 while teens do Step 3.

## IN THE BEGINNING... CREATION V. EVOLUTION

- copies of *I.D.*

Read the article, "In the Beginning... Creation v. Evolution" on pages 2, 3, 6 and 7 of *I.D.* After finishing the article, discuss it as a group:

- ▶ Which of the theories mentioned have you learned about in school?
- ▶ Which of the Student Questions in "High School Biology 101" are points you've never heard before?



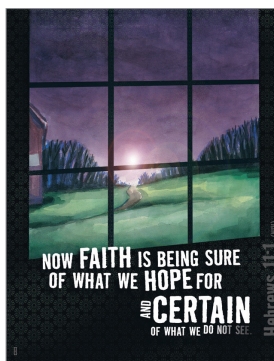
## FAITH FOR ALL SITUATIONS

- paper, pencils
- "Hebrews 11:1" poster from *High School Creative Teaching Aids*

Look at the poster "Hebrews 11:1" from *High School Creative Teaching Aids*. In this poster a window looks out over a path leading to an unknown place. Pencil sketch what could be waiting at the end of this path. You may show a good or not so good situation, place, or person.

Paraphrase Hebrews 11:1 to fit your situation and write it somewhere on your artwork as a reminder to have faith in all situations.

Display your artwork when you are finished.



## ACT IT OUT

- watch/clock with a second hand
- 2 chairs

Have a pair of students sit in chairs in the front. They should act out a situation in which one of them has to step out in faith. This "drama" can include words as it isn't a charade. After 30 seconds or so, anyone from the audience can stand up and yell, "Freeze!" The person who yells freeze takes the place of one of the people in front and starts acting out a new situation. (It may take the other person a couple seconds to catch on to the new situation, but that's okay.) Continue acting out and freezing until everyone has had a chance to participate and/or time runs out.

# STEP 4

Applying God's Word

## Lesson Focus:

Step out in faith.

**Your teens will make decisions to step out in faith when tough situations arise in their lives.**

**Materials:** none

So, how do we live out our faith?

We've learned a lot about this from Moses' example. And, we've talked about ways to apply faith to the many decisions and relationships and events and questions that fill our lives. It's great to be prepared, and it's even better to have a plan for how you will step out in faith after you leave this room today.

But always remember that you can't come up with the faith you need to make those steps. Faith is something God gives you and builds in you so you are equipped to live as He wants you to. Faith begins inside and is reflected outside as actions. Therefore, in addition to preparing and planning, it's essential to pray. That begins and continues our faith-stepping process.

Have students separate and find a place they can be quiet before God (but still hear you). Have everyone close their eyes to block out distractions and focus their prayers.

Over the next few minutes, you'll read the Memory Verse, Hebrews 11:1, three times aloud, then guide students to meditate on a new aspect of their lives and faith.

Read the verse: "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

🔊 **What do you hope for? Share this with God.** *(Pause)*

🔊 **Now, ask God to tell you what He wants you to hope for. Listen.** *(Pause)*

Read the verse a second time: "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

🔊 **What fears, doubts, or questions do you have about what you "do not see"? Share these with God.** *(Pause)*

🔊 **Now, ask God about why He might not want you to see or know everything. Listen.** *(Pause)*

Read the verse a third time: "Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

🔊 **How certain are you about God's role in your life? His plans? Other intangibles? Share this with God.** *(Pause)*

🔊 **Now, ask God how you can be more actively certain of what you don't have tangible proof for. Listen.**

Have students come together again.

🔊 **What did you hear or experience during this time of prayer?**

🔊 **How will you rely on God as you make any and all steps of faith?**

Encourage students to engage the tools of prayer, preparation, and planning in taking steps of faith. Close with a prayer asking Jesus to draw each of you closer to Him, and guide you in actively following Him with your lives.

**Next Week** You will need to bring in a hat and a dollar bill for next week's lesson about value.