

# TEST OF FAITH

HEBREWS 11:32-34  
PSALM 35:1-3

WHAT IS HARDER THAN THE TEST OF FAITH?

REJECTING IT AND WONDERING WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN

CHARACTERS OF FAITH

BARAK—JUDGES 4  
GIDEON—JUDGES 6 & 7  
JEPHTHAH—JUDGES 12  
SAMSON—JUDGES 13-16  
SAMUEL—I SAMUEL 1-8  
DAVID—I SAMUEL 17

WHAT IS GOD CALLING YOU TO DO RIGHT NOW THAT YOU CANNOT DO ON YOUR OWN...AND THAT FILLS YOU FULL OF FEAR?

ARE YOU FOCUSING ON YOUR FAITH OR YOUR FEAR?

WHAT IS THE GREATEST TEST OF FAITH?

FOLLOWING GOD WITHOUT FEELING GOD?

I SAMUEL 16:7  
I CORINTHIANS 1:25-29  
II CORINTHIANS 12:8-10

WE SAY, “GOD—HOW? WHAT? WHEN? WHERE? WHY?”

GOD SAYS, “WATCH!”

GOD IS NOT SILENT, WE ARE DEAF.

GOD IS NOT HIDDEN, WE ARE BLIND;

WHAT IN YOUR LIFE SHOWS THE POWER AND PRESENCE OF GOD IN YOUR LIFE?

DO YOU APPROACH TESTS OUT OF FAITH OR OUT OF FEAR?

MATTHEW 8—THE DISCIPLES IN THE STORM—WATCH!

MATTHEW 14—PETER SINKING IN THE SEA—WATCH!

MATTHEW 14—PEOPLE WITHOUT FOOD—WATCH!

MATTHEW 15—PEOPLE WITHOUT FOOD—AGAIN—WATCH!

MARK 9—A FATHER’S SON SPIRITUALLY ATTACKED—WATCH!

LUKE 8—THE DEATH OF A CHILD—WATCH!

JOHN 11—A SICK FRIEND WHO PASSES AWAY—WATCH!

WHAT IS THE FOCUS OF YOUR FAITH?

PSALM 25:15

PSALM 141:8

PSALM 16:8

PSALM 105:4

PSALM 39:7

PSALM 31:5

PSALM 35:1-3

I SAMUEL 17:45-47

## **BIBLE STUDY QUESTIONS: THE TEST OF FAITH**

HEBREWS 11:32-34

1. What is the difference between a test of faith and a temptation?
2. Would you agree that the only thing harder than accepting the test of faith is rejecting it and wondering what could have been? Why or why not?
3. What is God calling you to do right now that is filling you full of fear? Have you jumped yet? Are you in mid-flight? Have you landed? Or are you still considering?
4. Which Bible character do you identify most with? Gideon (Judges 6, 7); Barak (Judges 4); Samson (Judges 13-16); Jephthah (Judges 12); David (I Samuel 17); Samuel (I Samuel 1-3) Why?
5. What are your fears that are associated with the test of faith? Why are they easier to focus on than your faith?
6. Spend some time reflecting over the following verses: Psalm 25:15; 141:8; 16:8; 39:7; 105:4; 31:5—Which verse impacts you the most? Why?
7. Read I Corinthians 1:25-29—What excuses have you used in the past or are using now? Now take a minute and tell them to God—what do you hear Him saying?
8. Describe a time that you had to trust God—How did your faith grow? What made the test so difficult? What did trusting God cost you? Was it worth it in the end? Why?
9. How do we spend so much energy and time building our castle and yet miss God—who just wants to crash into our lives—to be seen and to be trusted?
10. We ask God, “How? What? When? Where? Why?” And God says, “WATCH!” What do you think He wants us to see? What keeps us from seeing Him? Do you agree with the statement, “God is not hidden—we are blind; God is not silent—we are deaf”? Why?
11. When you encounter a test, do you find yourself approaching it out of faith or out of fear? Why? How did Jesus respond to those who approached Him out of fear and faith? What difference, if any, does approaching God out of faith or out of fear have on a person—short term and long term?
12. Read II Corinthians 12:8-10—when do you suppose you see God the most? When have you? Have you found that you see God more in hindsight or present during the trial? Why?