

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

HERE & NOW | PART 2

DISCUSS

Read Hebrews 11:1-4 & Genesis 4:1-8

- What themes do you notice in these verses?
- Where do you see repetition or connections?
- The author of Hebrews says that faith is the reality of what we hope for and the evidence of things we cannot see. In other words, faith doesn't mean waiting for God to come through before we step out. It means stepping out first and then trusting that God is powerful, wise, and faithful to keep His promises no matter what happens next. Do you find it easy to do that?
- In what areas of your life are you currently struggling to have that kind of faith?
- In the story of Cain and Abel, we see two different types of gifts – a “first and best” gift and a “leftover” gift. What stands out to you about the difference between the two brothers and their gifts?
- Where do you see faith displayed or not displayed through them?
- Abel didn't know how much more his flock would produce after offering his best to God. He trusted God's ability to provide. As you think about your own life, who or what receives the first and best of your time, talents, and treasure?
- What does that say about your priorities? What does it say about your trust in God? We often say that we have faith with our words, but we don't live that way with our actions. Where do you see the biggest discrepancy between words and actions in your own life?

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- How might God be challenging you to acknowledge Him as first in both?
- Waking up to the moment and following God is not just adding a little God into our lives. It's letting Him take us on a journey of trusting Him with our first and best and then watching Him do what only He can do. Where in your life is God calling you to awaken to this kind of faith? What will it require of you to do that?

RESPOND

Reflect on what you just discussed. What is God prompting you to do next so that He can do a work in you? How about through you? Share your next step with your Life Group, including when you'll do it, and write it in you're Here & Now Guide (page 56-57).

PRAY

Close out your group time by praying together. Thank God for being a God who can be trusted and for calling you us into this journey. Ask Him to stretch your faith and fill you with courage to give Him the first and best of your time, talents, and treasure. Pray that as you take this step, He will do unimaginable things through you to advance His Kingdom.