

WHAT IS FAITH?

SERMON GUIDE

FAITH BELONGS

Hebrews 13:7-25 | Pastor Tim Prince

October 1, 2023

Faith Community Church | fcchudson.com

The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

- Scripture that stands out to you while you read
- Observations about the verse or phrases that stood out to you
- Application that connect the verses to your real life and relationships
- Prayer that invites God to participate in your life and provide power to follow him

Conversation Questions

Getting to know me: Have you ever had a really positive relationship with a church leader or pastor? What was it like?

Note about the passage: The "strange and diverse teachings" described by verses 9-14 are the teachings of religious leaders during the time that the kingdom of God was entered/attained through ceremonial rituals and the keeping of the old law, rather than by faith in Jesus Christ and the grace given through his death and resurrection. It also speaks to those who are being persecuted by the religious leaders for their faith in Jesus, encouraging them to "go to [Jesus] outside the camp, and bear the reproach he endured". This means that just as Jesus was sacrificed outside the city and temple of Jerusalem, so those who follow Jesus will likely find themselves put out. Believers look to Jesus for hope and endurance.

Read Hebrews 13:7-25

- S** What verses, phrases, or words stand out to you as you read this text? Is anything "illuminated" or jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O** What do you think it means that our leaders "keep watch over you as those much give an account"?
- O** What do you think it would look like to be led away by diverse and strange teachings today? (see note about the passage). How does any believer guard against being led away?
- O** What are the benefits of:
 - continually offering up a sacrifice of praise to God (v. 15)
 - not neglecting to do good and share what you have (v.16)
 - obeying your leaders and submitting to them (v.17)
- A** Which of these commands do you personally find most challenging? Why?
- A** Are you in a position right now to be protected from "strange and diverse teaching"? What step could you take this week to better guard yourself?
- A** Which of these commands do you think our church or your Missional Community is most challenged by? How do you think you can be a part of overcoming the challenge?
- A** If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?
- A** What is your relationship with the leaders of your church or Missional Community like? As you've been reading and discussing, is there anything that you know God has laid on your heart to respond to? What is it?
- P** Talk to God about your application responses. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and