

Message by Mike Reid
May 19-20, 2007
When Faith Doesn't Change Things
Hebrews 11:32-40

In spite of all the victorious faith stories in Heb. 11 (vss. 1-35), sometimes God does not reward our faith with pleasant circumstances. In fact, as was true for some in Hebrews 11, and also is sometimes true for us, we may never find relief for difficult circumstances. Those in this final passage of the "faith chapter" hung in there until the end. It is a good source of encouragement for us to do the same.

Questions for Discussion:

1. What do you recall from the message that was encouraging or interesting to you?
2. What are some of the specific contrasts between verses 35-40 and the preceding verses? Compare especially with verse 33.
3. Do you recall the locations (countries) of some of the contemporary stories of persecution that were read? What is your response to the persecution of believers in far away lands?
4. Do you know of any examples of pain and suffering of believers here closer to home?
5. Do you recall the comic strip read from Pearls Before Swine? What was the point of the cartoon? How is it (or not) an example of the bad theology of our American society?
6. What would you say to a fellow believer who is experiencing great anguish for a situation that God apparently chooses not to change?