



# ENDGAME

## Clearing Up the Confusion

#NPENDGAME

Week 3  
3 of 5  
November 20, 2016

**Bottom Line:** Your beliefs will determine where you go, and your behaviors will determine how you spend eternity.

**Icebreaker:** When most people talk about “the soul,” to what are they referring? How does this vary between followers of Christ and unbelievers?

**Key Verse:** *Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.* Hebrews 11:1-3

Hebrews 11 is often referenced as the “faith chapter” of the Bible because of the reoccurrence of the prepositional phrase “by faith.” What we see is that “by faith” men and women of God went on to do some incredible things. Their belief in a God whom they could not see but knew existed led them to do some amazing and incredible things for the honor and glory of His name.

Our entire faith as Christians hinges on the belief in the gospel, but our faith doesn’t end there – it extends on into eternity. After this life we will be with Jesus in heaven where He rules and reigns. Until that day, though, we live here. The Bible makes clear that how we live in these present days matters. That is why those in Hebrews 11 are commended, for they lived with integrity and faith.

So the question for us is this: How are we living? Are we living in a way that God will reward us in the end? We don’t work for the reward; we work because we love God. However, we know that our reward is a reality when we show God love and affection and live with audacious faith. Verse after verse of this passage tells the story of people who did incredible things by the power of their faith in an incredible God. They were richly rewarded in heaven for their faith. We should aspire to live as they did.

## THINK IT OVER >>>

Thinking back on Dwight’s message, what stood out to you?

Dwight said that . . .

- Life on earth is a temporary assignment.
- We’re made to live forever.
- Rewards are for believers.
- Rewards are different from redemption.
- Rewards have multiple benefits.
- Rewards have more to do with why than what.

If someone looked back over your life and was going to write your “by faith” story, what would it say? Clearly the story is still being written, but would the evidence give much to write about? Explain.

How do we make our eternal reward a present reality in our minds, and not just something we chase as an end in and of itself?

## LOOK IT OVER <<<

Look through the rest of Hebrews 11. Is there a favorite story you have there? Who is your favorite and most inspiring hero of faith in the Bible?

Why do you think Jesus chastised the disciples for their weak faith? How should we seek to build up our own faith in Jesus?

Do you think about the rewards that await you in heaven? Why should you?

What are the results of a life without faith? Why should we seek to avoid this at all costs and help others do the same?

# NEXT STEPS

This week, consider taking some next steps together, as a group:

1. What are some things that can build our faith? Which is most helpful to you? Share with the group the hope that some experiences will impact and encourage others with.
2. Thank God for rewarding faithfulness. Ask that you would be faithful to Him no matter what the cost and give yourself again and again to loving and consistent obedience. Praise God for loving you enough to reward you in heaven, as well as helping you live for Him in the here and now. Express your confidence in His Spirit to safely lead you home.

## EVALUATION/ACTION Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

**Bottom Line:** Your beliefs will determine where you go, and your behaviors will determine how you spend eternity.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

## PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

## DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at [newpointe.org/daily](http://newpointe.org/daily):

Day 1: 2 Timothy 2:11-13

Day 2: Luke 12:13-21

Day 3: Luke 12:27-34

Day 4: Luke 16:11

Day 5: Luke 16:12

***Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.***

*(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)*