

PARENT'S DISCUSSION GUIDE

HEBREWS 11 - FAITH AT WORK

Cain and Abel – Genesis 4

- Read Genesis 4:1-16 and/or watch the “creative story telling” video using the link provided.
- **Discuss with your kids the following truths:**
 - Hebrews 11:4 - Abel had faith in God. Because of Abel’s faith, God considered him righteous. Righteous means to be in “right standing” with God. This doesn’t mean that Abel was perfect, it does mean that he tried to do what God wanted him to do and when he messed up he asked for forgiveness.
 - Cain was selfish. We see that his offering and his reactions to everything in the story were focused only on himself. He was upset because he felt that God should love him more. God told Cain that all he had to do was live a life of faith and he could be blessed with a relationship with God. The opposite was true too, if Cain gave in to anger and sin God told him that he would then have to be punished (cursed).
 - In our lives God gives us his word, his truth, we choose whether or not we want to put him first and follow his instruction. If we live faithfully before God we will find eternal reward. If we live wickedly sinful lives we will face the punishments that we deserve.
- **Questions:**
 - Why was Cain so angry? What was wrong in his life that made him react the way he did after the offerings?
 - Do you spend a lot of time living selfishly like Cain? God wants you to know that that is a very dangerous trap to fall into.
 - Why did God accept Abel’s offering? What difference does faith make in our lives? Do you want to live for God faithfully? He will bless you if you do.
 - Even though bad things happened to Abel on earth, do you think that God rewarded him for his faith? What is more important, getting everything your way in this life or in eternity with God?