

BRINGING IT HOME

5. Is there anything from this week's sermon or study that can help you face a current or future fear?

6. Take a minute and ask God if there is any area where He would like you to obey Him.

THE CHALLENGE OF HOPE

Jesus said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?"
Mark 4:40

The root of the word FAITH means "TO _____"

Having HOPE, even when the worst happens:

1. Believe that Jesus _____ about you
Mark 4:35-41

→ _____ Him

2. Believe that you _____ to Jesus more than you think
Mark 5:1-17

→ _____ Him

3. Believe that Jesus can transform your sufferings into a good _____
Mark 5:18-20

→ _____ Him

Growth Group Homework

For the Week of February 22, 2009

Mark 4:35-6:13

QUICK REVIEW - Looking back over your sermon notes, which particular point or passage of Scripture most challenged, confused, or caught your attention?

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. Have you ever thought about heaven and the home that God is preparing for His children? What questions would you like to ask God about that place and what it will be like?
2. Have you ever experienced God's presence and hope in the midst of a trial, problem, or scary situation? If so, what was it like?

INTO THE BIBLE

3. True "hope" in the face of fear has more to do about *whom we trust* than about the feelings we have. **Read Mark 5:21-43**, and imagine you are looking over the Jairus' shoulder during his whole time with Jesus. What choices did Jairus make along the way – from beginning to end – that enabled him to have hope, even when the situation looked bad?

What choices could you make in the midst of your own circumstances that would help you be "hopeful"?

4. It's important for us to understand the difference between God's unconditional love that we can't earn or deserve and His blessings that have the condition of our obedience. Check out the following two passages and write down some blessings that God wants to give us and what part we play in receiving them.

	Blessings / God's part	Conditions / Our part
1 Corinthians 10:13		
1 John 1:9		

Jairus could have easily made some excuses not to trust Jesus when Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe." What are some of the common excuses people use today for not trusting Jesus?