

God's work

The faithful

Studying missionary pioneers who ran the Christian race can motivate our family to see ourselves as the runners in the next leg of the race. Through their stories, we see how God uses ordinary people, with all their weaknesses and struggles, to do extraordinary things through His power and grace. As followers of Christ, we need to not only run the race, but also pass the baton on to the next generation of believers, like Paul did with Timothy.



Hebrews 12:1 (NIV)

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us."

Study it

As a family, read through the "Hall of Faith" in Hebrews 11. Talk about the lives of those listed. Many were men and women with great flaws, yet God used them in mighty ways. What character quality did they have in common? What does it mean to live by faith?

Experience it

▶ Read a story about a missionary. Write a skit/monologue that reflects the story of his or her life. Act out the play. Consider creating a stage, using props, and even inviting family and friends to come watch your creation.

▶ William Carey's famous quote, "Attempt great things for God. Expect great things from God," has motivated Christians for centuries. Write this quote on your world map. Discuss what great things your family is attempting for God. Are you expecting great things from God, too?

Discuss it

- 1 Is there anything that God is asking our family to do by faith right now?
- 2 What are the qualifications that God is looking for? Consider Isaiah's response in Isaiah 6:8.
- 3 How do we cultivate an attitude of willingness like Isaiah's?

Map it

Do you know missionaries personally that are serving in another country? Does your church support missionary families? If so, mark their location on your world map and pray that God would bless the work of their hands as they faithfully serve Him.