



## Dig Deeper Study Guide

Stroudsburg United Methodist Church - May 29, 2011

### Sermon

God in the Movies:

*"Letters to God"*

by Bob Shank

Things I want to remember  
about this sermon...

Monday 5/30/11

Hebrews 11

Faithful and committed people are all around us if we just take some time to see and recognize them. Today is Memorial Day and we should not just remember but honor those around us and before us who sacrificed their lives for the freedom we enjoy. The eleventh chapter of Hebrews is viewed as a list of the faithful who proved their faith by their actions. What are you doing in your life to prove your faith? Can you make a list of what people see in your life that reveals your Christian beliefs? If someone was writing a letter about your faithful actions, what would they write?

Tuesday 5/31/11

1 Chronicles 29:17

Sit down and write a letter to God from yourself. That's right; write a letter to God asking the questions you've always wanted to ask God. What would you write? What questions would you ask? In the movie, "Letters to God," young Tyler asks numerous quizzical questions of God and not only discovers some answers, but changes the lives of others in the process. Write your letter to God today.

Wednesday 6/1/11

Psalms 49

Cancer is a horrible and devastating disease. It has no concern for age, beauty, or faith. Cancer cells destroy life! Many of us know someone who endured this suffering disease and watched by as the cancer cells took our loved one from us. Do you ever ask why? Do you ever question God's presence while carrying seemingly overloaded burdens? This psalm asks, "Why should I fear in times of trouble...?" What do you fear? What do you do with your fear? Who do you share it with? Today try to talk yourself out of fear. It just might work!



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Things to do this week in response to the sermon...

*Write a letter to God...*

*Pray for those with cancer...*

Thursday 6/2/11  
Romans 5:1-5

This was the passage for the sermon this past Sunday. What does these words mean to you today? Do these words relate to your situation in life? Does Paul really expect us to rejoice in our sufferings? How can we rejoice when we are feeling awful? Hope is eternal and requires faith. How much hope do you have even in difficult situations? Do you trust in the hope God has in store for you?

Friday 6/3/11  
Jeremiah 4:1-3

Digging deeper often means getting dirty. It is not always fun and games, nor is it always a clean endeavor. Are you willing to use some energy and be willing to get dirty to grow your faith? Gardens are dirty and yet the very dirt is what helps plants to grow and produce. What dirt do you have to uncover or turn over to experience some growth in your faith? Are you willing to roll up your sleeves and get dirty in order to know the Lord better?

Saturday 6/4/11  
Philippians 1:1-11

The Apostle Paul wrote letters to his beloved churches when he found himself apart from them but still wanted them to know he was thinking about them. These letters became words of great encouragement for the churches and eventually to the entire Church as a whole. Paul probably never imagined in his wildest dreams that his letters would become such an integral part of the Bible. What impact have letters made in your life? Is there someone you would like to send a letter to today? Don't put it off. Sit down and write a letter to someone and get it in the mail. It just might make a big impact and be very meaningful in their life.