

JULY 10, 2016 FOCUS: STUDIES IN HEBREWS PASTOR JIM LARSON

LOOKING BACK TO MOVE FORWARD Hebrews 13:7-25

"It is a good thing to know, and always keep turning over in the mind the things which were illustriously done of old."

Quintilian, Roman Master of Oratory

Your early leaders worth remembering (Hebrews 13:7-8)

They have been faithful to the word.

They have stayed the course - remained faithful to the end.

They have demonstrated their faith in their lives.

Avoiding strange teachings of strange leaders (Hebrews 13:9-16)

We are made strong by grace, not religious custom.

A sacrifice of praise is more than just singing a few songs.

Lips that profess; lives that demonstrate; hearts that share

Following your present leaders (Hebrews 13:17-19)

The right kind of follower inspires the right kind of leader.

The right kind of leader <u>leads</u>, <u>cares</u>, <u>keeps watch</u>, and <u>maintains accountability</u>.

How to pray for your leaders

God's blessing on their life and ministry

A clear conscience – recognition, confession, accountability in shortcomings and sins

A desire for honorable living – living above reproach

Freedom to hear and follow God's call in their lives

Taking It Home

Think back over your life and try to identify one or two "legacy leaders" that deeply impacted your life. Legacy leaders include far more that pastors, elders, and officially recognized leaders. They're faithful people next to you that helped you along the way. Take a few moments to thank God for the impact they had on your life.

Consider making this a special week of prayer for leaders in your life that God has provided. Look back over how to pray and help them in ministry.