For the week of January 11, 2015

Pastor: Steve Zeisler

**Renewing Our Passports**

***Second week in the series ‘Immortal. Invisible.”***

**Hebrews 11:8-16**

‘Sojourning’ is one of the compelling images used in both the Old and New Testaments to describe the life of faith. However familiar the world around us may feel, it is not our home. God places each believer in a particular alien environment (Silicon Valley for most of us) in order to serve the needy, declare God’s grace, stand for truth, and sing his praise. But this world is not our home. We belong to the city we can see in the distance (Hebrews 11:10).

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Jesus said to give Caesar what is Caesar’s and God what is God’s. There are times when this distinction is difficult to make. Can you relate an experience where you wrestled with a particular hard choice in this regard?
2. Regarding our broken world, we are lured by opposite temptations – a call to repair what is ruined in our own strength or to withdraw and abandon the sinking ship. Which of these are you more prone to?
3. What role does suffering play in helping wean us from the identity we are given by the world?