

It's not our faith but God's faith at work in us that truly leaves a mark.

Belief: the direction I look—what is true.

Faith: the action I am willing to take.

Moving forward in my Faith:

Acknowledge I am stuck.

John 21: 1- 3, James 4:10

Be open to God's voice, the Spirit.

John 21:4-6; Proverbs 14:12; Isaiah 55:8

Commit to God's plan.

John 21:7-12; Jeremiah 29:11

Faith leads to trust and trust to freedom.

Self-Control or self-indulgence? Proverbs 16:32; 25:28;
Romans 13:12-14; I Corinthians 6:12; 9:25-27; 1Thessalonians 5: 22;
Galatians 5:16-23; Titus 2:12; Hebrew 12:2; II Peter 1:5-7

Appetites

Emotions

Thoughts

Influence

Self-control is not doing without but the freedom to experience God's best.

Welcome to the Spring Quarter of Life Groups!

To prepare for this week's meeting, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group. Have a great meeting as you come together to connect and encourage one another to grow and to see God change your lives from the inside out!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

1. Who is someone you know who is marked by faithfulness. What is it about that person you admire?

2. How would you describe faithfulness to someone? Do you think most people think belief and faith are the same thing? Why or why not?

GOING DEEPER

What about this week's message challenged you, stirred questions or brought about action?

Is Faithfulness working in you?

Read Galatians 5:22-23 ask yourself:

How do I exhibit faithfulness in my daily life?

What blocks faithfulness from working and being exhibited in me?

How can I make faithfulness function better, stronger and faster even in times of uncertainty and stress?

Doubt, distrust and misplaced anger are the opposite of faith. We can lose our trust and hope that God is in control!

·Here are positive examples from Scripture (II Kings 5:8-14; Matt. 15:21-28; 21:18-22; Luke 7:1-10; Acts 3:1-10; Heb.11: 1-40)

·Here are negative examples from Scripture (Matt. 6:25-34; 14:22-33; 17: 14-20; Mark 6:1-6; James 1:5-8)

What are the things that cause you to doubt or distrust God?

How does distrust counteract faithfulness?

When have you been filled with faithfulness the most?

In what situation did you fail to have faithfulness in which you should have?

What issue is in your life that would improve with more faithfulness?

Self-Control is allowing God to be in control of your will and heart and seeking the Spirit to enable us. Read: I Corinthians 6:12; 9:25-27; 2 Peter 1:5-7

How would you define Self-Control?

What are the things that lure you to be self-indulgent?

How does the excess of life counteract self-control?

What happens to our relationships with God and others when we relinquish self-control?

When have you been filled with self-control the most?

What issue is in your life that would improve with more self-control?

THE PURPOSE OF LIFE GROUPS

Life Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful Christian relationships and the study of God's Word (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24-25). Here's how it will happen:

SHARE

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

STUDY

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life.

SUPPORT

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another and meeting real needs.

SERVE

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (Ephesians 4:11-16). Throughout the quarter, it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways God has designed you to serve and make a difference in God's Kingdom.