



HIGH SCHOOL AND ADULT GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GROUP PREP

In preparation for group, [watch Emmanuel's weekend service message](#), read [Genesis 12:1-9 \(NLT\)](#), and then answer the following discussion questions.

SOCIAL TIME (10-15 minutes) - For Leaders

Have an ice-breaker ready, eat a snack together, or go around the circle asking your group members to share any news since your last meeting if your group is continuing from last semester. Be intentional in helping your group members get to know one another during this time and make it fun.

Ice-Breaker Suggestion: House on fire. Ask your group members to imagine the following scenario: Your house is on fire, and everyone is safe. You have 30 seconds to run through the house and collect three or four articles you want to save. What would you grab? Why?

CHECK-IN (15-20 minutes) - For Leaders

Ask everyone to describe how their action step went this past week. Many may have elected to do the 21-day fast and Walk By Faith Devotional. How did it go this week as we finish up our fast?

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (45-60 minutes)

[2 Corinthians 5:7](#) encourages, "For we must walk by faith, not by sight." Faith should be a lifestyle. It should be how we approach life and the thing that distinguishes us from others in the world.

1. Reality-based adventure shows like Survivor, The Amazing Race, Eco-Challenge, Expedition Impossible, and others are easy to find on television these days. They set up adventurous contestants to battle against each other to solve problems and endure expeditions in intimidating and unfamiliar landscapes.

On a scale of 1 to 10, how likely would you be to join a team on one of these shows? Explain how you arrived at your number.

Chances are our lives don't look much like these reality shows. Still, we probably can find ourselves in the middle of some pretty challenging or uncertain circumstances. Do you ever find yourself asking God, "How could this possibly happen?" or telling Him, "That just seems impossible." In what areas of your life is it hardest to have faith and trust God?



Walk By Faith – Week 4

2. The inspiring account of Abraham's faith is woven throughout much of scripture, both in the Old and New Testaments. Some of the promises God made to him seemed impossible and scary.

Read [Hebrews 11:8-11 \(NLT\)](#) and [Romans 4:18-20 \(NLT\)](#). How would you respond if God told you to move to "another land," not knowing what the future held?

Suppose Abraham hadn't lived out his faith by trusting God and doing what He said. How would that have impacted the generations that have come from Abraham's family tree?

3. Considering the enormous impact that Abraham's faith had on generations of descendants, how might your decision to walk by faith impact others in your life?

4. Things don't always turn out like we imagined or hoped they would, or we might struggle to give over trust and control to God in particular areas of our lives. Read [Romans 4:21 \(NLT\)](#). If we believe in God's promises and what he says about us, He will never let us down.

Consider these lists:

God has asked you to:

- Invest in others [John 13:15 \(NLT\)](#)
- Live in sexual purity [1 Thessalonians 4:3-7 \(NLT\)](#)
- Don't be unequally yoked [2 Corinthians 6:14 \(NLT\)](#)
- Return ten percent [Proverbs 3:9-10 \(NLT\)](#)
- Speak life [Ephesians 4:29 \(NLT\)](#)
- Meditate on His Word [Psalm 1:2 \(NLT\)](#)

Promises that God has given us through his Word.

- I will provide for you. [Philippians 4:19 \(NLT\)](#)
- I will work all things together. [Romans 8:28 \(NLT\)](#)
- I will be with you. [Isaiah 41:10 \(NLT\)](#)
- I will answer prayers. [Matthew 7:7 \(NLT\)](#)
- I will give you strength. [Isaiah 40:31 \(NLT\)](#)
- I will give you peace. [Isaiah 26:3 \(NLT\)](#)
- I will guide you. [Psalm 32:8 \(NLT\)](#)

After looking at this list, what is one promise you struggle to believe? Be specific. Instead of saying, "I struggle with believing that God will provide for me," say, "I struggle with believing that if I am generous with my money that God will give me enough to cover all my expenses."



Walk By Faith – Week 4

What specific action step can you begin this week to exercise trust in this area?

ACTION STEP (10-15 minutes)

Choose one of the following or create your own.

- **Daily time with God.** Determine the type of routine you'd like to have to spend time learning about what pleases God. Here are some ways to do this:
 - o Download and participate each day in the [Walk By Faith: 21-Day Devotional](#).
 - o [Download the Emmanuel app](#) and read the One Year New Testament daily.
 - o [Download the YouVersion app](#) and find a devotion you can do daily.
 - o If you recently placed your faith in Christ and texted SAVED to 65248, read the devotional provided in your starter kit.
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PRAYER (5-10 minutes)

Give everyone in your group an index card. Ask them to write their name and action step on one side and a prayer request on the other. When finished, have everyone pass their cards to the left. Everyone in the group now has someone to connect with throughout the coming week for three reasons:

- 1) To build the relationship.
- 2) To encourage them to accomplish their action step.
- 3) To pray for in a specific way.

Ask them to place the index card on their nightstand or another place that would allow them to see it and use it every day.

GROUP SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

To determine how your group can serve together in the surrounding community, email Breanne Schafer, Emmanuel's Outreach Coordinator, at bschafer@eclife.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 6 | [Baptism Services](#)

February 14 | [VERB](#)

February 18 | [1824](#)

You can find more information on all of these events at eclife.org.



MIDDLE SCHOOL OBJECT LESSON & DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GROUP PREP

In preparation for group, [watch Emmanuel's weekend service message](#), read [Genesis 12:1-9 \(NLT\)](#), and then answer the following discussion questions.

1. What is the bravest thing you've ever done? How did you overcome any fears associated with this thing?

Today we have an activity that will help us get started.

ACTIVITY:

Materials needed:

- blindfold for one volunteer

To play:

- Choose one brave volunteer from your group and ask them to put the blindfold on.
- Explain to the class that you are demonstrating today whether or not your volunteer has faith in your directions and care for them. Faith is listening to God and trusting Him that He will help you and lead you where you should go even when we cannot see it with our eyes.
- First, spin the volunteer around to disorient them. Then give the blindfolded student directions on where to go to make his or her way across or around the environment. You can even make it seem like he or she might run into something and give them directions to navigate around.
- As your helper gets near the other side of the environment, you will give them instructions to sit down, but he or she is not allowed to feel if there is anything to sit on. He or she has to have faith that the chair is there. As you explain this, quietly bring out a chair and position it so he or she will sit directly on it. Cue your group to remain silent. It would be best if you stayed close to pivot the chair to ensure that he or she doesn't miss.

2. Read [Hebrews 11:8-11 \(NLT\)](#) and Read [Romans 4:18-20 \(NLT\)](#). How would you feel if God told you to move to "another land" not knowing what the future held?

Abraham might have been tempted to be afraid when God told him to pack up his family to move to an unknown land or that he would have a son even though he was almost 100 years old. He was probably terrified when God asked him to sacrifice his son. What are some fears that might keep you from trusting God to take a step of faith?

What happened in Abraham's life because he decided to trust God and walk by faith even when he didn't know for sure what would happen?



Walk By Faith – Week 4

3. Consider these lists:

God has asked you to:

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After looking at the list, what are one or two things in which you might be struggling to trust God completely?

What bold steps of faith might God be asking you to take at your school? With your family? With your friends? Let's all choose one thing we can do this week to walk by faith in those areas where we struggle to trust God.

PRAYER (5-10 minutes)

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UPCOMING EVENTS

February 1 | [Impact Team Night](#) (text TEAM to 65248 to register for this event)

February 6 | [Baptism Services](#)

February 14 | [VERB](#)

You can find more information on all of these events at eclife.org.