

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

TRUSTING THE MAN WHO IS GOD

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

"¹⁶ Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter. ¹⁷ If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. ¹⁸ But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up." Daniel 13:16-18 (ESV)

"⁵⁸ And he did not do many mighty works there, because of their unbelief." Matthew 13:58 (ESV)

"²³ Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes."²⁴ Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" Mark 9:23-24 (ESV)

"⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!"⁶ And the Lord said, "If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you." Luke 17:5-6 (ESV)

"¹⁹ And he said to him, "Rise and go your way; your faith has made you well." Luke 17:19 (ESV)

"¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² For by it the people of old received their commendation. ³ By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible." Hebrews 11:1-3 (ESV)

"¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven." James 5:15 (ESV)

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Start Talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- Share a high and a low.
- Who is someone in your life that is sick and in need of prayer?

Head: Start Thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Read Luke 7:1-10. What kind of faith does the centurion have?
- Read Daniel 3:16-18. Is the faith of the three Jews in the story tied to their desired outcome?
- Read Mark 9:23-24. Do you ever feel like the father in the passage?

Heart: Start Sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Use a question from N.T. Wright's "Luke: For Everyone" (pg. 48-49).
- In Luke 7:1-10, how does the centurion's answer (about authority) reveal a great deal about who he believes Jesus to be?
- Look at some of the passages on the left. Is there a connection between our faith and God's work in our lives? Are there any hard and fast rules about faith and how God works?
- Describe a fiery furnace you are in right now. Do you believe God is with you even if he decides not to pull you out?

Hands: Start Doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Who is someone in your life that needs your presence with them in the fiery furnace this week? How will you commit to caring and praying for them this week?

Start Praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- "Lord, heavenly Father, please give me grace to understand and power to move forward, even if you choose not to rescue me from the fiery furnace. Please lead me to say with Paul: 'Your grace is sufficient for me, and your power is made perfect in weakness (2 Corinthians 12:9).'"

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three for 15 minutes:

1. What has God been teaching you in His word this week? Is there anything you need to repent of?
2. What's something you'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
3. How's your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going? (3 Conversations with New People, Learn 2 Names, Make 1 Meaningful Connection)
4. Pray for one another.