

Think Ahead

Trusting God When You Don't Understand

TALK IT OVER

Key Scriptures

Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight. Proverbs 3:5-6 NIV

Elkanah had two wives, Hannah and Peninnah. Peninnah had children, but Hannah did not. 1 Samuel 1:2 NLT

So Peninnah would taunt Hannah and make fun of her because the LORD had kept her from having children. Year after year it was the same—Peninnah would taunt Hannah as they went to the Tabernacle. Each time, Hannah would be reduced to tears and would not even eat. 1 Samuel 1:6-7 NLT

“Why are you crying, Hannah?” Elkanah would ask. “Why aren't you eating? Why be downhearted just because you have no children? You have me—isn't that better than having ten sons?” 1 Samuel 1:8 NLT

Once after a sacrificial meal at Shiloh, Hannah got up and went to pray. Eli the priest was sitting at his customary place beside the entrance of the Tabernacle. Hannah was in deep anguish, crying bitterly as she prayed to the LORD. 1 Samuel 1:9-10 NLT

... “O LORD of Heaven's Armies, if you will look upon my sorrow and answer my prayer and give me a son, then I will give him back to you. ...” 1 Samuel 1:11 NLT

“Oh, thank you, sir!” she exclaimed. Then she went back and began to eat again, and she was no longer sad. The entire family got up early the next morning and went to worship the LORD once more. Then they returned home to Ramah. When Elkanah slept with Hannah, the LORD remembered her plea, and in due time she gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, “I asked the LORD for him.” 1 Samuel 1:18-20 NLT

Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What's one thing that's easier said than done?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Which part of this message was most impactful for you and why?
- How easy or difficult is it for you to trust God? How does knowing His character and past faithfulness help you trust Him more?
- Read **Proverbs 3:5-6**. What does it look like to submit and trust in God, even when you don't understand? In what ways will God make your paths straight?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- Share about a time when you were faced with a trial and had to choose between worry and trust. How did you respond, and what did you learn through that experience?
- Talk about an area in your life where you are currently struggling to trust God. How would your life look different if you gave that worry to God?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Father, thank You for being faithful. Please help us trust in You even when it's difficult. We want to experience Your peace and grow to be dependent on You in the good times and the bad. In Jesus' name, amen.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- [Think about one worry you can intentionally give to God this week. Talk about your experience with your LifeGroup.](#)
- Start the *Think Ahead* Bible Plan using Plans With Friends: www.go2.lc/thinkaheadplan
- Consider how you could love others by serving on the weekend or with a Local Mission Partner.