

MAKE IT SAFE: Review and Commit to the Group Guidelines.

We will enter with a loving heart, seeking a for & with attitude.

We will cultivate a curious mind, seeking understanding of self and others.

We will pursue a willing spirit, seeking to participate humbly.

We will interact with a gentle strength, seeking to be like Jesus.

ICEBREAKER:

What fears tend to sabotage or threaten your faith?

REVIEW:

The reality of life is that our fears tend to overwhelm our faith; therefore, we need to strengthen our faith. Paul tells us in Romans 10:17 that hearing the message builds faith. **Read Amos 8:11-12. What prevents you from being hungry enough to pursue the message? What might help you develop that hunger?**

Read Luke 17:1-5. The disciples recognized that the root issue in their ability to do hard things (like forgive) was due to an underdeveloped faith, so they first confessed their weakness and then asked Jesus to help them. **Consider an area of weakness in your life. . .how would stronger faith equip you? What do you need to believe about God?**

Read Mark 9:20-24. The father's admission of his own lack of faith opened the door to Jesus helping him. When fears are stronger than faith, it becomes necessary for the fear to be spoken. **What makes it difficult to admit our own weaknesses?**

Read Psalm 9:1-2. Throughout Scripture, God invites us to remember who He is and what He has done for us.

RECEIVE:

Read a story about Jesus and His faithfulness to those who call to Him.

Confess the fear that is sabotaging your faith.

Ask God to help increase your faith.

Recount a story of how God has satisfied your thirst. (Ps. 107)

APPLY:

All of the above are helpful; however, if done in a safe community, the rate of growth will multiply exponentially. (See James 5:13-16) **How can your group be a part?**