FAITHFUL ABUNDANT TRUE

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With study questions by Lorie Keene

LifeWay Press[®] Nashville, Tennessee

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ISBN 9781415868980 Item 005271629

Dewey Decimal Classification Number: 248.843

Subject Heading: FAITH \ CHRISTIAN LIFE \ SPIRITUAL LIFE

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Printed in the United States of America

Leadership and Adult Publishing LifeWay Church Resources One LifeWay Plaza Nashville, Tennessee 37234-0175



1. Jesus keeps everything in this world in place by the power of <u>His</u> <u>Word</u>.

2. Ichabod means "The glory has departed."

3. The eternal Word of God is <u>worth</u> living for and <u>dying</u> for.

4. Are you prepared for the persecution?

5. The people of God were not <u>maturing</u> as Christians and were actually <u>regressing</u>.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are some of the characteristics, qualities, and authority that we attribute to God and to Jesus Christ as well?

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2. What most helps you keep on track maturing in your faith?



1. The people of God were doing all sorts of <u>good</u> <u>deeds</u>.

2. Faith is taking God at <u>His</u> Word.

3. Resting in faith means we rest in the <u>Word</u> of <u>God</u>.

4. Are you gaining <u>approval</u> with God?

5. We can run to Jesus, our High Priest, to find grace in our time of <u>need</u>.

6. God's Word says <u>difficult</u> times are coming.

7. We must know His Word and then take His Word and live in the <u>rest</u> of <u>faith</u>.

8. The rest of faith is <u>uniting</u> the Word of God with faith

for a particular <u>situation</u>.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Ephesians 4:29 says, "Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear." Share an example of heeding the advice of this verse and one of when you wish you had.
- 2. Discuss with your group about a time when you took a stand for Christ. How did God use that decision to help you mature in your faith?

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Our God is <u>able</u>!

God is able to <u>Surprise</u> you.

One of the most fantastic attributes of God is simply that <u>He</u> <u>can</u>.

The Book of Ephesians is considered by commentators to be the _________ pinnacle______ of Paul's writings.

Ephesians 3:20-21

SEVEN PRINCIPLES IN EPHESIANS 3:20-21

1. <u>Time</u>

Now is the time to start considering the ability of God.

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The two verses in Ephesians 3:20-21 are called a <u>doxology</u>.

A doxology is an outpouring of <u>praise</u>, worship, and <u>honor</u> to God.

John 10:10

The abundant life is when, in the midst of your <u>impossible</u> situation, you say, "Now is the time!"

2. Turning

Hebrews 12:2

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Priscilla said God does not want us placing our hope or identity in anything other than our personal relationship with Him. How do you place your hope and identity in God?
- 2. Abundance really means pouring out honor, praise, and worship in spite of difficult circumstances. Can you share about a recent season of abundance in your life with your group members?

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SEVEN PRINCIPLES IN EPHESIANS 3:20-21

1. Time

2. Turning

3. Truth

John 2:11

Micah 7:7

You either <u>trust</u> God or you don't.

Jeremiah 29:11

4. <u>Transcendence</u>

Paul uses the word hyper twice in Ephesians 3:20.

We serve a God who does <u>Way</u> past your way past.

5. Totality

Every single thing that concerns you		conce	rns	God
Matthew 10:30				
Romans 8:32				
We have a God who	cares	_about	everyt	ning

6. <u>Turbo</u> power

7. Our tribute to Him

Our God is predictable in His character, but He is

<u>unpredictable</u> in His activity.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. God is predictable in His character, but He is unpredictable in His activity. In what ways has God been predictable in your life?

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2. In what ways has God's unpredictable activity surprised you?



The people of God have the power within us, not just to do or to act, but to <u>know</u>.

John 14:15-26

The very nature of *agape* love in the Greek New Testament is a love that

is demonstrative

John 14:21-23

John 14:24-27

1 Corinthians 2:6-16

"We have the <u>mind</u> of Christ." 1 Corinthians 2:16

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God fashioned us for significance

2 Timothy 3:1

2 Timothy 3:12-13

Do not be <u>deceived</u>. (See 1 Cor. 6:9; Gal. 6:7; Jas. 1:16.)

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Sometimes we need to know something that we don't. What steps do you take to discern what God wants you to do?
- 2. In your own words, what is *agape* love? How does God show you *agape* love? How do you demonstrate yours for Him?

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TWO DIMENSIONS OF SPIRITUAL REVELATION WE DESPERATELY NEED:

1. Divine revelation in our <u>human</u> encounters

Can I trust what I'm sensing?

- 1. Am I a <u>critical</u> or <u>suspicious</u> person by nature?
- 2. Am I jealous or do I feel threatened ?
- 3. Do I have anything <u>selfish</u> to <u>gain</u> from this outcome?
- 4. Are my <u>emotions</u> clouding my discernment?

You cannot walk in the Spirit and not have a heavy-duty <u>relationship</u> with Christ.

The Spirit fills us to the extent that we yield to His <u>authority</u>.

We will never live a day in the Spirit <u>accidentally</u>.

Based on these four questions, we needed four no's to make a yes:

- 1. Am I a critical or suspicious person by nature?
- 2. Am I jealous or do I feel threatened?
- 3. Do I have anything selfish to gain from this outcome?
- 4. Are my emotions clouding my discernment?

The yes is the Holy Spirit is <u>telling</u> me something.

Listen for one of four instructions from God:

- 1. <u>Run</u>
- 2. Take a step back.
- 3. Ask questions. Confront in person if the Spirit leads you in this direction.
- 4. <u>Stay</u> <u>put</u>, but love with your eyes wide open.

Obadiah 1:3 Psalm 116:11

2. Divine revelation in our <u>Christ</u> encounters

John 14:21

Christ wants to give us enlightened hearts that can <u>See</u> Him and <u>Sense</u> Him at work.

GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. How should the fact that God is always in control affect how we relate to others?
- 2. When we've been burned enough, we could be tempted to love less and less. What can we do to learn how to love with knowledge and insight?

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