

# Main Street Church - Life Group Guide

Series: *Tell Me a Story*

Message: **Part 5 – Mustard Seed Faith**

December 3, 2017



## Connect & Check In (15min)

### \*Welcome & Opening Prayer

> Invite 1 Group Member to open in Prayer. Try to have a different person each week...

### \*ICEBREAKER

\*What are 1-2 key ways that you intentionally connect with family/friends at Christmas?

\*What are 1-2 key ways that you personally focus and connect with CHRIST through the Christmas season?

## Sunday Message Feedback (40min)

\*Speaker: Pastor Shawn Vandop.

### 1. Would you rather:

- a. Go way back in time and meet your ancestors (pre-1800's) or go way into the future and meet your great-grandchildren (post 2200)?
- b. Have no Internet or no mobile Phone?
- c. Have a five-star restaurant personal chef who can prepare any meal at any time of day or a chauffeur that can drive you to and from anywhere you want in any vehicle of your choice?

### 2. Sunday Message Feedback

\*What is 1 thing that impacted you from Sunday's Message?

### 3. Read [Luke 17:3-10](#) – Parable of the Mustard Seed.

> [*Mustard Seeds* are mentioned in Mt.13:31; 17:20; Mk. 4:31; Lk. 13:19; Lk.17:6.]

> [Bonus - YouTube Video: [The Mustard Tree](#) ]

Why do you think Jesus used this parable? How do you think his original audience understood it?

When it comes to understanding faith did you learn anything different about faith from the Parable of the Mustard Seed?

What does it mean to have Faith with the 'Character' of a Mustard Seed (not so much the size)?

### 4. Without A Doubt:

This weekend we heard the good news that doubt does not necessarily mean a person lacks faith.

With that said, doubt often times can do one of two things –

- 1.) It either causes us to seek God, ultimately instilling a greater belief in what he can do, or
- 2.) It leaves us stuck in our own lack of movement or disobedience, wondering if God will really show up.

How might the following verses help build your confidence in God in the midst of doubt?

- a. [Psalm 145:9-10](#)      b. [Psalm 25:8](#)      c. [Psalm 89:11](#)      d. [James 1:17](#)      e. [Romans 1:19-20](#)

**\*Which one of these verses is most important for you to remember right now, and why?**

5. Pastor Shawn told us that faith is simply trusting God enough to do what he says. Another way to think about it is - to understand that obedience is better than faith. Throughout the Bible, God provides us with motivation to do what he says and continue on!  
What motivations do you find in the following passages - to keep obeying and pushing forward?

- a. [1 Corinthians 15:58](#)      b. [Hebrews 12:1-3](#)      c. [2 Timothy 4:6-8](#)

**\*Discuss which passage speaks or encourages you the most.**

6. It's often during times of hardship and challenge that we want God to rescue us and are most often tempted to doubt his plan. But the Bible teaches that hardships can play an important role in developing our faith. How do the following passages help us understand the role of hardship and the attitude God wants us to have toward it?

- a. [Romans 5:3-5](#)      b. [James 1:2-4](#)      c. [Romans 8:38](#)

**\*Can you think of any examples from our own life where knowing the truth of these passages has helped your faith be "active" and "life changing?"**

## Application & Prayer (20min)

**\* Considering Sunday's message and our study together...**

what's one thing that you can take home and begin applying in your life? \_\_\_\_\_.

**\* Are there any doubts that are hindering you exercising your faith?** Share 1 or 2 specific doubts.

**\* What is 1 way we can pray for your spiritual growth?** (faith/relationship with God)

*\*I need God's help in or with \_\_\_\_\_.*

**\* What is 1 physical or practical need that we can pray for in your life?**

*\*I need prayer for healing/strength/provision for \_\_\_\_\_.*

**\*PRAY:** Break into groups of 3-4 or Men & Women to give thank & praise to God and Pray for one another.  
(for faith, healing, provision...)

## Resources

### \* Scripture:

<http://www.openbible.info/topics/doubt>

<http://www.openbible.info/topics/unbelief>

<http://www.openbible.info/topics/faith>

### \* Quotes:

*20 Quotes from "Help My Unbelief" - by Barnabas Piper.* <https://barnabaspiper.com>

### \* Alpha Course:

[www.mainstreetchurch.ca/alpha](http://www.mainstreetchurch.ca/alpha)

### \* Websites:

<http://crossexamined.org>. <https://www.reasonablefaith.org>. <https://www.apologeticscanada.com>.

<http://www.oneminuteapologist.com>. <http://coldcasechristianity.com>. <https://www.gotquestions.org>

## Announcements

### LIFE GROUP

Our final group meeting of 2017 is on \_\_\_\_\_.

Our first group meeting of 2018 will be on \_\_\_\_\_.

### CHRISTMAS TALES – Outreach Event

**Fri. December 15. 7pm** – Main Street Church Auditorium. Tickets are \$15 (or \$90 to reserve a table of six).

Include coffee/tea & Homemade Pie! Seating is limited and tickets are selling fast!

Available at Guest Services on Sunday or through the Church Office (Mon-Thurs).

### CHRISTMAS HOPE D-DAY – Christmas Hamper Deliver Day.

**Sat. December 16.** 9am Start. Main Street Chapel. \*100 Hampers!

### CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

**Sun. December 24.** (No Morning Services)

\*2:30pm \*4pm \*5:30pm

### PRAY FIRST – Month of Prayer & Fasting.

**January 2018.** Details & Devotional to be announced.

### ALPHA Course

**Thursdays. January 18-March 29.** 7pm-8:30pm. Main Street Chapel.

Register: [www.mainstreetchurch.ca/alpha](http://www.mainstreetchurch.ca/alpha)