



NEW HEIGHTS CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

"Our Heart is People, Our Message is Jesus"

Table Group Discussion Questions

Series: Words We Thought We Knew

Title: "Faith" on June 14, 2026

Icebreaker / Getting Started (10-15 minutes)

1. On a scale of 1 to 10, how naturally does faith come to you — and has that number changed at different seasons of your life? What moved it up or down?
2. What's the riskiest thing you've ever trusted someone else with — your car, your money, your reputation, your heart? What made you decide to trust them?

Digging into the Scripture & Sermon (15-20 minutes)

Read together: **Luke 8:43–48, Luke 7:2–10, Luke 18:1–8, and Galatians 2:20**

3. The bleeding woman risked everything — her social standing, her reputation, her isolation — to touch the hem of Jesus's garment. The sermon said faith isn't real until it gets personal and costly. What does it look like for your faith to be costly rather than comfortable? Where in your life is faith asking something of you right now?
4. The centurion's friends said he *deserved* Jesus's help. The centurion said he *didn't* deserve it. And Jesus was impressed with the centurion. What does that contrast reveal about what genuine faith actually looks like? Why is it significant that the centurion understood authority and submission before he understood anything else?
5. In the parable of the unjust judge, Jesus flips the question. He doesn't ask whether God will show up — he says God will, and quickly. The question he actually asks is: "*When the Son of Man comes, will he find faithfulness on earth?*" What does it mean that the tension in the parable is on our end, not God's end?
6. Galatians 2:20 says Paul lives *by the faithfulness of the Son of God* — not just by his own faith in the Son of God. What's the difference between those two framings? What changes about the way you approach a hard season of life when the ground beneath you is *his* faithfulness rather than *your* faith?

Personal Reflection (15-20 minutes)

7. The sermon described three hues of faith: **trust** (getting in the car, not just watching from the crowd), **allegiance** (loyal obedience, pledging your life to King Jesus), and **persistence** (showing up even when you can't see the results). Which of those three feels most alive in you right now — and which feels most depleted?
8. The sermon named the word-of-faith distortion — using faith as a lever to control outcomes, "naming and claiming." Even if you've never formally believed that, have you ever treated faith more like a transaction than a relationship? What did that look like, and what did it cost you when the outcome didn't come?
9. The story of Jeff's friend who kept showing up to church even when he couldn't believe — saying old prayers he wasn't sure he meant, being with people who could believe when he couldn't — resonates with a lot of people. Have you ever been in that place? What kept you showing up? Or what made you stop?

Action & Follow-Up (15-20 minutes)

10. The sermon said the focus of faith is not an outcome but a person. This week, pay attention to the moments when your prayers drift toward outcomes — *God, fix this, give me that, make this work* — and practice redirecting toward the person: *Jesus, I trust you. I'm yours*. Come back and tell the group what that shift felt like.
11. The sermon described allegiance as living in such a way that when you're gone, your neighborhood, your workplace, your family will say the community is better because you were here. Name one specific place in your life — your workplace, your street, your family — where you want your allegiance to King Jesus to be more visible this week. What's one concrete thing you'll do?
12. Peter denied Jesus and Jesus called it not the failure of faith but a temporary departure — *"when you have returned, strengthen your brothers and sisters."* Is there someone in your group or your life right now whose faith is faltering? Without betraying confidences, pray for that person by name in your group this week. And if it's you — say so. Let the group be the community that believes with you until you can believe again.

Close in Prayer

The sermon ended with three invitations. Let each person identify which one they most need right now, and pray for each other accordingly:

- **Trust:** *Lord, help me to actually get in the car — to bet my life on you, not just admire you from the crowd.*
- **Allegiance:** *Lord, teach me what it means to pledge my whole life to you and your kingdom — in my workplace, my neighborhood, my relationships.*
- **Persistence:** *Lord, teach me to keep showing up — even when I can't see the results, even when my faith feels small or broken.*

Close by reading **Galatians 2:20** aloud together — slowly — as both a declaration and a prayer: *"The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."*