

SMALL GROUPS

Leader Conversation Guide

Main Idea:

Faithfulness is the steady, dependable character of God **formed in us** as we abide in Jesus. In a fickle culture, Spirit-produced faithfulness (trustworthy, reliable, dependable, loyal, constant) becomes living proof of the gospel and a powerful witness to others.

Make It Practical:

- **Fruit, not force.** Faithfulness grows from **abiding**, not from rule-keeping (Gal 5).
- **Acts vs. Fruit.** The *acts of the flesh* exhaust; the *fruit of the Spirit* refresh (Gal 5:16–23).
- **God’s nature reflected.** We are faithful because **God is faithful** (Lam 3:22–23).
- **Define it clearly:** trustworthy in public/private, reliable in commitments, dependable in actions, loyal in relationships, constant over time.
- **Aim of our lives:** to hear, “**Well done, good and faithful servant**” (Matt 25:21).
- **Three simple truths:**
 1. **Faithfulness grows in relationship with Jesus** (John 15:16).
 2. **Faithfulness grows in a healthy garden**—planted in God’s house and godly community (Ps 1:3).
 3. **Faithfulness grows in small moments**—being faithful in little (Luke 16:10).

Key Scripture:

Galatians 5:16–18 NIV — Walk by the Spirit... led by the Spirit, not under the law.

Galatians 5:22–23 NIV — “...the fruit of the Spirit is... **faithfulness**...”

Colossians 1:10 NIV — “...please him in every way: **bearing fruit**... growing in the knowledge of God.”

Colossians 2:6–7 NIV — “...continue to live your lives in him... **strengthened in the faith**...”

Lamentations 3:22–23 NIV — “Great is your **faithfulness**.”

Matthew 25:21 NIV — “Well done, good and **faithful** servant...”

John 15:16 NIV — Chosen and appointed to **bear fruit that will last**.

Psalms 1:3 NIV — Planted... **yields its fruit** in season.

Luke 16:10 ESV — “One who is **faithful in a very little** is also faithful in much.”

Talk About It:

1. Where do you most **feel the tension** between flesh-impulses and Spirit-led faithfulness right now (home, work, private life)?
2. Of the five descriptors—**trustworthy, reliable, dependable, loyal, constant**—which one is the Spirit highlighting for growth? Why?
3. **Relationship with Jesus:** What is one daily abiding practice you will guard this week (Word, worship, prayer, obedience, generosity, serving)?
4. **Healthy garden:** Who are the **faithful people** you’re planted with (church membership, small group, serve team)? What “planting” step is next for you?
5. **Small moments:** Identify three “little things” (punctuality, follow-through, unseen tasks, clean communication) where you can practice faithfulness starting today.
6. How might consistent faithfulness in your lane become a **witness** to someone far from God? Share a name and a plan to bless/serve them this week.
7. What would “**Well done**” look like in your current season by next month? Name one measurable commitment and a teammate to keep you accountable.

Prayer:

Father, thank You that **great is Your faithfulness**. Holy Spirit, as we abide in Jesus, **form faithfulness in us**—make us trustworthy, reliable, dependable, loyal, and constant. Strengthen us to be faithful in the **small things**, planted in Your house, so our lives bear **fruit that lasts** and point people to You. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Leader Tips:

- **Frame the win:** “This week we’re not trying to *do more*; we’re learning to **abide** so faithfulness **grows**.”
- **Model vulnerability:** Share a recent “small moment” where you chose faithfulness (or missed it) and what you learned.
- **Make it sticky:** Have everyone write one sentence: “By next Sunday I will be faithful in _____.” Collect and text gentle midweek reminders.
- **Celebrate quiet heroes:** Call out unseen faithfulness in your group (setup, follow-up texts, arriving early, praying consistently).
- **Close with commissioning:** Lay hands (same-gender clusters) and pray John 15:16 over each person: **fruit that will last**.