

# You OTTAGETTU The Point!

## JESUS & YOUR FAITH

### Parent Page

Dear Parents,

**For a relationship that's supposed to trump all others, teenagers' relationship with Jesus can sometimes be hit or miss.** This doesn't make them wrong or bad. It simply makes them human. Part of learning to follow Jesus is learning what the faith that forms the foundation of this relationship looks like. The good news? Jesus had a lot to say about this faith.

We're about to embark on a four-week study of Jesus' teachings on faith. Your teenager will understand exactly what faith in Christ is supposed to look like, how this faith impacts their lives, and how their faith is a vehicle for impacting the world in Jesus' name.

**Here's a few ways you can help your teenager understand the kind of faith Jesus desires for us all to embrace:**

- Pray for your teenager and the others walking through this Bible study.
- Look for some of the verses that we discuss in the follow-up letters and work through them with your child.
- Be open and honest with them about your own questions you have about this concept.

Thank you so much for letting us challenge your teenager in his or her walk with Christ each week!

Please pray for us and know that we are praying for you!



**Week 1:** *The Answer*

**Main Point:** *Forgiveness and Eternal Life? Faith in Jesus is the Answer!*

**Scripture:** *John 3:16-18; John 5:24*

**Summary:** In this first discussion, we helped students learn that our faith in Jesus is the means by which we find forgiveness and eternal relationship with Christ. We challenged them to really consider the significance of life through faith in Christ and death in separation from Him.

During the next week as you have time to talk with your teenager, remember that one way that will help him or her to understand and apply what he or she has learned is to explain it to someone else. Use the following questions to guide your conversation:

- Are you 100% sure about your standing with God? Do you ever doubt if you are saved or not?
- Why is it hard sometimes to really visualize the thought of spending eternity separated from God?
- Who are the three or four people who mean the most to you whom you don't think have a relationship with Jesus?
- What can I do to help you have the confidence to reach out to them and have some meaningful faith discussions?

**Week 2:** *Be Good Soil***Main Point:** *Love God? Love His Word!***Scripture:** *Luke 8:4-15***Summary:** *In this discussion, we helped students learn that a pure faith in Christ is the key to a life of meaning and purpose. We challenged them to evaluate their attitudes toward knowing and living out God's Word.*

During the next week as you have time to talk with your teenager, remember that one way that will help him or her to understand and apply what he or she has learned is to explain it to someone else. Use the following questions to guide your conversation:

- Do you ever feel intimidated about reading the Bible? How about feelings of boredom? (Let your child know that at some point in their lives, everyone struggles with reading the Bible) Why do you think that is?
- Why do you think it's so hard to actually live out the things we learn in the Bible?
- What was the last decision you made that was significantly impacted by your faith?

**Week 3:** *Do You Believe?***Main Point:** *Through Faith We Trust God to Meet Our Needs in His Timing, Not Ours.***Scripture:** *Matthew 9:18-31; 21:17-22***Summary:** *In this discussion, we helped students learn that true faith in God can be a powerful, transformational force in our lives and in the lives of others. We challenged them to take a look at the nature of their faith in God, to honestly assess any hesitancy or doubt, and to go to God in prayer with their thoughts.*

During the next week as you have time to talk with your teenager, remember that one way that will help him or her to understand and apply what he or she has learned is to explain it to someone else. Use the following questions to guide your conversation:

- You guys talked about faith and prayer this week. Do you remember what was said about how our faith impacts God's plans to meet our needs?
- What areas of faith are hard for you? In other words, what doubts do you have? (Assure your teenager that healthy doubt is a part of faith, and an important aspect of faith-ownership. If you feel it would be helpful, share some doubts or questions you struggle with, as well.)
- What is the difference in your mind in having questions for God, or doubts, and having a weak faith?

**Week 4:** *Rock Solid***Main Point:** *A faith that serves as a foundation for a life well lived.***Scripture:** *Matthew 7:24-27; James 1:22***Summary:** *In this discussion, we helped students learn that our faith is designed to be an active faith that guides our everyday lives. We challenged them to think about how their faith really impacts their day-to-day decisions, thoughts, and attitude.*

During the next week as you have time to talk with your teenager, remember that one way that will help him or her to understand and apply what he or she has learned is to explain it to someone else. Use the following questions to guide your conversation:

- In your minds, what does it mean to build your life on the foundation of faith in God's Word?
- How does your faith factor in your decision making process?
- How can our family move toward having a stronger faith foundation on God's Word?