

SESSION 4:
FAITH

**IT'S MORE THAN
BELIEVING GOD EXISTS**



TIME WITH JESUS | DAY 1

FAITH IS TRUSTING THAT GOD HAS REVEALED HIMSELF

READ JOHN 1:14-18.

Have you ever thought to yourself, *If God is real, then why doesn't He just reveal Himself? Why won't He just speak to us in a loud audible voice saying, "Hey, here I am! This is what I'm like"?* If God would just let us all see Him, then surely everyone would believe. After all, it's really difficult for people to believe in Someone they can't see or touch. Right?

Why is it difficult to believe that God is real?

Guess what? That is exactly what God did! He showed Himself and spoke to us through Jesus Christ.

John 1 presents to us a beautiful idea of who Jesus is. God went on a mission trip to planet earth. "The Word became flesh and dwelt among us. We observed his glory, the glory as the one and only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth" (v. 14). Jesus is the perfect representation of what God the Father is really like. God revealed Himself to His creation, and many still did not believe. In fact, they crucified Him!

List three or more characteristics you see in Jesus in the Bible:

Want to know what God is like? Look to Jesus. Anything you see in Jesus is actually God choosing to reveal Himself because Jesus is God.

Faith is more than believing God exists; it's trusting that God has revealed Himself.

"No one has ever seen God. The one and only Son, who is himself God and is at the Father's side—he has revealed him" (v. 18). Realize today that you serve a God who loves you so much that He took the time to reveal Himself to you through His only Son, Jesus Christ. Jesus Himself said, "The one who has seen me has seen the Father" (John 14:9). Let God reveal Himself to you today through the Scriptures and by talking to Him in prayer.

PRAYER MOVEMENTS



HANDS UP

A sign of surrender.

- Read Romans 15:13.

Spend time reflecting on how God has revealed Himself. Tell Him what you love about Him. **Surrender** any unbelief to Him, and let Him replace it with joy and peace.



HANDS OPEN

A sign of emptying out.

- Read Philippians 4:8.

What are you focusing on right now that is not true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, or commendable? **Empty out** by confessing anything that is not in line with who He is. Dwell on the beauty of Jesus today



HANDS OUT

A sign of receiving.

- Read 1 Timothy 6:11.

A follower of Jesus flees from unrighteous things and walks in righteous things. **Receive** the call to pursue good things today through the power of the Holy Spirit. If you pursue Jesus, you will pursue the right things.

TIME WITH JESUS | DAY 2

FAITH IS TRUSTING HIM EVEN
WHEN YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND
EVERYTHING

READ PROVERBS 3:5-6.

If you could ask God anything, what would it be?

It's extremely easy to be confused about what faith is. Often, people will try to approach God with this logic: *God, once I fully understand everything, then I will trust You. Then, and only then, will I believe in You.* However, we don't approach other things in our lives like that. Every day, we place our faith in things that we don't fully understand.

What are some things that you place your trust in every day but don't fully understand how they work?

Faith is not, *God, once I fully understand, then I will trust You.* Faith is, *God, I don't understand everything about You, and I don't fully understand what You're doing. But I trust You.* The truth is it isn't even possible to fully understand everything there is to know about God.

What is something about God that you wish you could understand more?

Think about it, if our human minds could fully understand everything there is to know about God, then He wouldn't be God. That would make Him equal, or even less than us. In fact, the only things that our finite minds can truly understand about the infinite mind of God is what He chooses to reveal to us.

King Solomon, the writer of some of the Proverbs, said in Proverbs 3:5-6 that you must trust in the Lord and not rely on your own understanding. He will lead you through paths that He has made straight, but you have to know Him by faith.

Faith is more than believing God exists; it's trusting Him even when you don't understand everything.

Even though you'll never fully understand everything there is to know about God, you can and should still grow in your wisdom and faith. That is why it is so important to stay in the Bible and spend time with God in prayer.

PRAYER MOVEMENTS



HANDS UP

A sign of surrender.

- **Read Hebrews 11:1.**

Surrender today to the truth of who God is. By faith, trust Him. Pray and ask God to strengthen your faith, even when you can't see Him.



HANDS OPEN

A sign of emptying out.

- **Read Mark 9:24.**

In what areas of your life are you not trusting the Lord? **Empty out** by confessing unbelief and ask the Lord to replace unbelief with faith.



HANDS OUT

A sign of receiving.

- **Read 2 Corinthians 5:7.**

Ask the Spirit to help you believe in the goodness of Jesus today. **Receive** the truth that Jesus can be trusted even when you can't see Him. Walk in that truth today.



TIME WITH JESUS | DAY 3

FAITH IS TRUSTING GOD WITH
EVERY AREA OF YOUR LIFE

READ COLOSSIANS 1:17-18.

When people visit our houses, we want to be a good host. So, we'll say, "Make yourself at home." However, when we say that to someone, we don't really mean it. How weird would it be if that person started looking around your room and going through your stuff?

What rooms or areas of your house are off-limits to guests?

When we say, "Make yourself at home," we don't want people to act like they really own the place. Sadly, many people approach Jesus the same way. What we really mean is, "Jesus, You can hang out in my Sunday morning room, but stay out of my relationships room, my school room, and my phone room." However, you need to know that when Jesus comes into your life, He buys the whole house and now has access to every area.

What areas of your life are closed off to Jesus?

Whatever they are, it's time to open them up to Him. For Jesus to truly have "first place in everything" (v. 18), He has to have access to do whatever He wants.

Do you really trust that He can do a better job with those areas of your life than you can? Why or why not?

There's an old cliché that still holds true. If Jesus isn't Lord over all in your life, then He is not Lord at all in your life. Here is the reality: you and Jesus don't rule together. He is King. He is Lord. He is God. You are not.

Faith is more than believing God exists; it's trusting God with every area of your life.

As a follower of Jesus, you can trust that He is better at owning the house, cleaning the house, and ruling the house than you are. When He is first place in every area of your life, that is when you'll have victory, freedom, and revival.

PRAYER MOVEMENTS



HANDS UP

A sign of surrender.

- **Read Romans 5:1.**

Take a moment and reflect on what Jesus did to buy your house (life). **Surrender** to the truth that He is the One in charge. He rules the house. He is your King and Lord.



HANDS OPEN

A sign of emptying out.

- **Read Romans 12:3.**

Typically, trying to be in charge of your own life and controlling certain areas is a pride problem. **Empty out** by confessing the areas of your life that you've tried to control. Ask God to give you faith to trust Him with those areas.



HANDS OUT

A sign of receiving.

- **Read Romans 8:1.**

Remember, if you've been bought by the blood of Jesus and His Spirit lives in you, you are now a child of the most high God. Take time to thank Jesus for purchasing you. **Receive** that truth today and live under His control knowing that He is doing all things for His glory and your good.

TIME WITH JESUS | DAY 4

FAITH IS TRUSTING GOD EVEN
WHEN YOU'RE FACING
TEMPTATION

READ LUKE 4:1-4,13.

One of the smartest marketing schemes that I have ever fallen victim to was at an amusement park. While waiting in a two-hour line for a popular roller coaster in one hundred degree heat, I came face-to-face with what I needed most: a huge trough full of ice-cold bottled water. Needless to say, I gave in to the temptation and bought one of the most expensive bottles of water I've ever paid for.

What is something that you paid a ridiculous amount of money for because you had to have it in that very moment?

Jesus had been in the hot, dry, and treacherous desert for forty days without food. It was only fitting for Satan to tempt Him to turn stones into bread. However, Jesus refused to give in. He knew His obligation to please the Father was more important than pleasing His flesh.

What are some of the things that people your age are tempted with the most?

Satan knows our weaknesses, so it only makes sense for him to tempt us with the things we desire. If you struggle with lust, Satan probably isn't going to lure you with gossip. If you struggle with gossiping, he is not going to waste his time tempting you with alcohol.

What is something the enemy tends to tempt you with?

PRAYER MOVEMENTS



HANDS UP

A sign of surrender.

- Read [John 6:29](#).

Spend time praying to God and confess your continued belief in the Son of God. **Surrender** to the truth that Jesus is better than anything you can be tempted by.



HANDS OPEN

A sign of emptying out.

- Read [James 1:13](#).

Realize today that God never tempts you. **Empty out** by confessing the things that you are tempted by. A real movement of God propels us towards obedience.



HANDS OUT

A sign of receiving.

- Read [1 Corinthians 10:13](#).

Ask God to remind you of His faithfulness today. God has called you to live a lifestyle of obedience and holiness through His power. **Receive** the promise of a way out of temptation when God provides it, and ask Him to give you the faith to walk through that way of escape.

