

# TALK IT OVER

## BEHIND THE CURTAIN The ING – Week 4



Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step. If you are leading a group through this guide, don't feel like you have to answer every question. Pick out the questions that will stir up conversation in your group.

- Since this week's message is about "growing", share any attempts you have made to grow something...in a garden, a yard, or a container?

**Read 2 Thesalonians 1:3-4 and Hebrews 11:6.** These verses expose the importance of faith to pleasing God.

- Name as many words as possible that mean the same as "faith".
- Why is faith/trust important to any relationship?
- What do people typically struggle to trust God with?
- On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate your faith in God today?

**Read Matt. 7:24-27.** In this passage we discover the power of hearing and obeying practical teaching.

- According to these verses, what happens to the person who hears the word of God, but doesn't put it into practice? What happens to the person who hears and practices God's teaching?
- Why do you think it's important for a church to teach simple, practical truths from the bible, rather than lots of biblical facts and knowledge that can't be applied to our everyday lives?
- At this point in your life, is your need, to learn more or to practice what you have already learned? Explain.

**Read Heb. 13:1-2.** Through this passage we discover the importance of relationships God brings into our lives.

- Christians are commanded to love each other like "brothers". How does this deepen the definition of love?
- How do you think we can entertain strangers?
- How does practicing the type of love described in these verses grow our faith?
- Share a time when someone extended this type of "brotherly" love to you? What was the effect on your relationship with them and God?

### NEXT STEPS:

Here are some specific things you can do this week to help you apply the principles of this message:

Take time this week to read the following scriptures about faith and its importance to a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. Record any observations you make. Matt. 8:10, Mark 6:2, Mark 4:40

Look for an opportunity this week to discuss the importance of faith and trust in God with someone younger than you, such as a child or student. Share with them examples from your own life where you learned to trust God.

### Talk It Over with God:

- Thank God for his faithfulness to you in the good times and bad.
- Confess to God the things that challenge your faith in him.
- Ask God to help you continue to grow in your relationship with him.
- Seek God's guidance concerning the next steps you should take in your relationship to him and others.

Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others in a Small Group. Connect at [www.newpointe.org](http://www.newpointe.org) – small groups