



Believe in Jesus

Focus God created us to have a relationship with Him through faith by believing in Him. God's purpose for us is to believe in Jesus.

Fun Is there one New Year's resolution that you make every year and it dissolves within the month? Perhaps there have been several "resolutions" that turn out to be just wishful thinking?

Review Key Scripture: Genesis 1:26; John 3:12–18

1. God created us with a purpose.

In Genesis 1:26, it says that God made us in His image for relationship with Him. We were created to believe in Him.

2. God created us to believe Him first.

In Genesis 2:15–17, God's desire for Adam and Eve is to simply believe Him first, even over experience. Sometimes, the reason we don't obey is because we don't believe.

3. God created us to believe Him last.

We first believe Him for eternal life through grace. When we continue to believe God's truth in His latest word to us, we grow in His abundant life.

Group Dynamics Idea A member may need to really believe for the first time for God's eternal salvation and for His abundant life. Ask the group to join you in a prayer of salvation. Then ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any areas, such as finances, health, or family, that fuel stress so each member can quietly submit it to the Lord. Then read 1 John 5:13 as a spoken blessing over your members.

Discuss

1. Read John 6:28–29. Our “doing” is produced by who we are. How does “being” in a daily relationship with God influence our decisions of what we “do?”
2. God created us to “be,” not to “do.” We can change our focus from a “human doing” to a “human being.” Name some areas in which our relationship with God will then strengthen.
3. Upon believing that God created us first for relationship with Him through faith, why do we need to continue to read His Word and believe Him daily? How does this increase our spiritual growth?
4. Read Genesis 2:15–17. Explain the difference in simply believing God first rather than relying on experience.
5. Not believing God results in disobedience. List some ways that believing God “establishes” and “prosper” you, as promised in 2 Chronicles 20:20.
6. Describe how to believe God first and how to believe God last. Why does believing God result in abundant life?

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- We believe in Jesus for salvation with eternal life.
- As we believe God’s Word both first and last, we become obedient to Him in every area of our life.
- Abundant life is ours when we believe Jesus every day.
- By walking in His truth, we allow God in our life and continue to grow in Him.

Prayer

Father, we believe Your word is truth. We want to believe You daily so that we will continually do the right thing. Show us where we have not believed You and help us obey. Holy Spirit, You have sealed us with salvation. Now we believe for Your abundant life in our life. Thank You, Jesus, for Your faithfulness during times when our belief has fallen short. It is in Your name that we have life. In Jesus’ name, Amen.

New Leader Tip Designate a time to chat with members about their jobs, family, or even home or car repairs. A member may be dealing with a difficulty that they may hesitate to

mention. You will find that your group opens up when they see you take the time to ask, attentively listen, and sincerely care.