



# ALPHA ONLINE 2020

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**HOSTS &  
HELPERS  
GUIDE**

**WEEK 4**  
How can I  
have faith?

# HOW CAN I HAVE FAITH?

**The Discussion Guide has four parts:**

**ICEBREAKERS** - Ideas to start making people feel comfortable before the video.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS** - Main questions you can use for discussion.

**EPISODE SUMMARY** - A short summary that highlights the big ideas, key quotes and scriptures.

**TIPS & GUIDELINES FOR HOSTING DISCUSSION** - Guidelines for hosts and helpers as they lead discussion each week. Read this at least once and maybe a second or third time during Alpha as a reminder.

## Icebreakers (before video)

See some icebreaker or online games ideas at the end of this guide.

## Discussion Questions (after video)

- It is often easy to start with: “Did anything from the episode stand out to you?”

### 1 WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT CHRISTIANITY BEING DESCRIBED IN TERMS OF A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD?

- How would a relationship with God be different from a relationship with someone else?

### 2 WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO HAVE FAITH?

### 3 HOW CAN YOU HAVE FAITH IN SOMEONE YOU CAN'T SEE?

### 4 WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE IDEA OF FAITH BEING A STEP BASED ON EVIDENCE RATHER THAN A BLIND LEAP?

**Additional questions (if needed):**

### 5 HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT PLACING YOUR TRUST IN GOD?

### 6 WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT THE IDEA OF HAVING A RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS?

### 7 WHAT ARE SOME OBSTACLES THAT MIGHT PREVENT YOU FROM HAVING A RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD?

### 8 AFTER FOUR WEEKS OF ALPHA WHAT ARE THE BIG QUESTIONS ON YOUR MIND? WHAT ARE YOU HOPING MIGHT COME UP IN FUTURE WEEKS?

# Episode Summary

## BIG IDEA

The big question this episode is exploring is, what does it mean to be a Christian? Or, in other words, what does it mean to have faith? Christianity is not a club someone joins or a set of ideas to add to your knowledge. It is a life-changing relationship with Jesus! And we enter into that relationship by faith – not blind faith, but a step of faith based on the truth about who Jesus is and what he has done.

## KEY QUOTES & SCRIPTURES

This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

**2 CORINTHIANS 5:17**

Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.

**REVELATION 3:20**

A great description of the word faith is *trust*. It's trusting someone (or something) enough to act on that trust.

God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

**ROMANS 5:8**

To all who believed him (that's Jesus) and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.

**JOHN 1:12**

## Tips & Guidelines for Hosting Discussion

Discussion in small groups is the most important part of every Alpha session. Hosting a discussion on Alpha is not about re-teaching any of the content from the episode – the goal is to create a safe place where everyone can share openly and honestly about their thoughts and feelings and ask questions. Remember, the discussion guide is just a guide. Use these questions to spark conversations and bring it back on track when needed.

Alpha is a journey. The more time you spend together as a group, the more people will feel free to open up and share their opinions.

## GUIDELINES FOR THE GROUP

- You don't have to talk if you don't want to
- You can ask or say just about anything  
*(as long as you aren't putting other people down or making it so others can't talk)*
- Respect each other by listening and welcoming different opinions
- Keep things confidential when you leave the group

## TIPS FOR HOSTS & HELPERS

- Remember names
- Pray
- Be committed
- Show up early to welcome guests
- Stay long enough to chat with guests afterwards
- Keep the conversation alive and balanced
- Be encouraging
- End on time
- If time allows, debrief with your Alpha team to celebrate wins, chat about challenges and share prayer requests

# Icebreakers

Laughter is food for the soul! Here are some fun icebreakers you can use each week:



- Do you squeeze the toothpaste tube or roll it? What's the advantage of your method?
- When was the last time you square-danced or line-danced? Rate your dancing ability on a scale of 1 to 10.
- What's one fashion trend you hope never comes back? Which ones have come back that you wish hadn't?
- What magic tricks do you know? Perform one now.
- Do you have a collection? If so, what do you collect and why?

- Are you more inclined to "build your own empire" or "unleash the potential of others"? Explain.
- What's your preference: plane, train, boat, automobile, horse, or camel?
- What was your favorite recess activity: dodgeball, kickball, foursquare, hopscotch, freeze tag or jump rope?
- What's your pick: hang glide, sky dive, bungee jump, hot air balloon, or kite?
- What is one of your favorite souvenirs brought back from your travels? Where do you keep it?

- What is your favorite bumper sticker or t-shirt slogan?
- As a child, did you ever peek into a wrapped gift before you actually received it? Did you ever get caught? Explain the details.
- What room in your house best reflects your personality? Why?
- Who's the most famous person you've ever met? What famous person would you most like to meet?
- What's your favorite kind of candy?

- What's the wackiest belief you held as a child?
- Which movies have you watched over and over again?
- What do you admire most about your best friend?
- What items do you currently have stored in the trunk of your car?
- Are you an early bird or a night owl? Why?