

FAITH IN

REAL LIFE

MS
MIDDLE
SCHOOLS
MINISTRY

Week 3
Faith + Doubt
3.20.22

LEADER PREP

MAIN POINT

Even when I doubt, I can still start to own my faith.

SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 3:5-7

THINK ABOUT THIS

Sometimes when Christians hear that others have questions about God, they can really freak out. Well, wrestling with questions is actually a natural part of growing in our faith. A part of your middle school students growing in their faith will be asking BIG questions and listening for tough answers. Asking questions is a part of coming to understand our world. As your students' leader, you help your students by:

- Letting your students know you are a safe person for them to bring their deep questions and tough issues.
- Don't feel like you have to have all the answers; your job is to point them to the God who has every answer.
- Walk alongside your student as they look for answers: are there Bible verses you can read together to look for the answer?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

THE CHECK IN

- How was everyone's week? Share Highs & Lows.
- Someone recap the main point of the message.
- What is a real fact that you always doubted to be true?
- Why is doubting things so easy to do?
- If you have doubts about faith or God, how do you typically deal with them?

THE WORD

- READ Proverbs 3:5-8.
- Do you guys know who wrote Proverbs? (A: Solomon. You can even share the story about how God granted him wisdom because of a dream he had...meaning he is a really smart guy.)
- Why do you think God tells us to trust Him instead of our own understanding?
- Have you had to trust someone, maybe a parent or friend, when you didn't know how things would go? When?
- God is good, faithful, present, and that He builds bridges. No matter what is going on in our lives, or how dark times seem, or anything—He is working actively for good. So why do you think it is so difficult to trust God sometimes?

APPLICATION

- When it comes to doubting, having doubts is normal and can even be a good thing. But if not dealt with well, they can destroy your faith.
- Who remembers any of the 5 steps to doubt-well?
 - a) Realize you are definitely not alone
 - b) Don't doubt by yourself
 - c) Start at the beginning
 - d) Ask questions and lean into God
 - e) Establish what it is that you believe from what the Word of God says and how you see that play out in real life, and accept that you won't know everything.
 - The fifth step is to establish what you believe from the Word of God—why isn't it a good idea to establish what you know from Tik Tok? Or YouTube? Or movies / tv?

PRAY

We are going to close in prayer.
Anyone have any prayer requests?

PROVERBS 3:5-7 NLT

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart;
do not depend on your own understanding.

6 Seek his will in all you do,
and he will show you which path to take.

7 Don't be impressed with your own wisdom.
Instead, fear the Lord and turn away from evil.

NOTES