

STRONG FAITH

Ice Breaker _____

Game/activity _____

Some Questions...

- Q What is faith?
- Q Why is it so important in a Christian's life? (because we can't be saved without faith)
- Q How does our faith grow? (through facing challenges bigger than ourselves that we must rise to overcome)

We all have parts of ourselves that are weaker and more vulnerable than other areas. As we go through stuff, we can grow in ourselves; and faith gives us the strength to face the weaker parts of ourselves. God knows and accepts every part of us, so He lovingly allows situations where our faith will be tested and grown.

- Q How can you tell if someone is strong in their faith? What is the 'fruit' in their life?
- Q What does it mean to lose faith?
- Q What is the difference between faith and presumption?

Group Discussion:

Read out the following statements one by one and decide if each is Faith or Presumption:

- Alison believed that she was going to win the lucky door prize at the next Super Central F / P
- Tim believed that if he flipped his Bible to any page, God would speak to him F / P
- John read his Bible every morning even when it didn't make sense every time F / P
- Jan prayed for a friend's headache to go, but nothing happened..... F / P
- Stef couldn't connect with God one day in church but lifted her hands and sang anyway F / P
- Julie gave \$10 towards Anna's \$2300 trip to a Cambodian orphanage..... F / P
- Bill put all his pocket money in the Sunday offering knowing that God would return all of it F / P
- _____ (write another one) F / P

Date you did this study _____

Leaders' Notes

Illustration:

Read Genesis 17:1-8, 19-21; 22:1-18.

Abraham received a promise from the Lord and then he was tested:

- Q What was the promise?
- Q What was the test?
- Q What do you think would be going on in Abraham's mind on the way to the altar with his son?
- Q How was his faith tested at this time?
- Q Has anyone here been through such a time of testing? (leader to share here also)
- Q What other Bible characters do you know of, also went through times that tested their faith?
- Q What are some tests that we face as teenagers today that could cause our faith to grow?

Personal Application:

We all have to start somewhere in our faith. Faith comes from trusting in God... so... what is one thing that you could step out in faith this week and do? Share it within the group and make sure it is not presumption and pray for one another to take the step this week.

Extra Bible References for the study:

- Hebrews 11:6
- 2 Corinthians 5:7
- Hebrews 11:1
- James 2:26
- Galatians 5:22-25