

*Just*Faith

*Purpose. From a
new perspective.*

JustFaith Weeks 11-15 Overview

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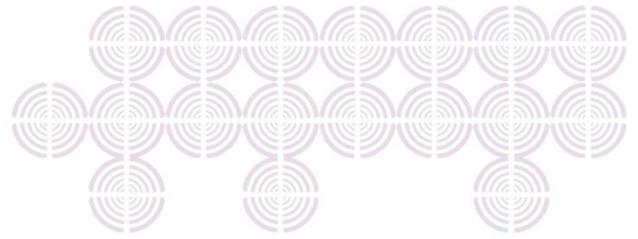


www.justfaith.org

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In partnership with





General Comments

Week Fifteen marks the half-way point for the JustFaith process. We want to thank you for the energy, spirit, and time that you have invested to making this experience a holy and meaningful one for each of your participants. God is working through you, that through your facilitation, lives might be changed; those changed lives will help to change our world. Do not underestimate the part you play in bringing forth the reign of God.

Community Building

Community is built each week in JustFaith as participants share prayer, stories, responses to the readings, videos, etc. However, it is also important to incorporate other activities that build community and help members to continue to connect with each other on a personal level. Some ideas include:

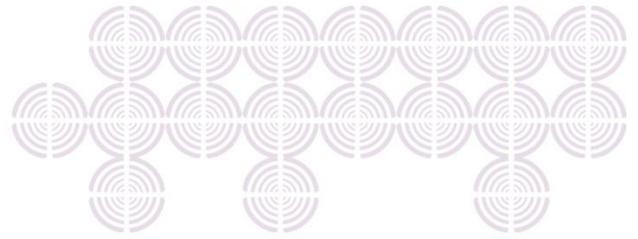
- getting together for a pot luck dinner
- coming to a session thirty minutes early to have a casual social time together
- agreeing to meet for worship and going out for coffee or breakfast afterward

The point is that the group has some time together that is outside the context of the weekly sessions. Other ways to be attentive to the growing sense of community is to do any of the following:

- recognize participant birthdays
- send a group card when a participant is ill or there is an illness in the family
- remember to bring to prayer personal struggles or crises mentioned by participants
- respond to other life events in appropriate ways

Discussion Questions

Participant sometimes ask co-facilitators why discussion questions associated with the readings are not included in the handouts for each week. One reason for this is to allow the co-facilitators to manage the discussion by strategically selecting questions they feel are most appropriate for the group. In other words, there are often more questions provided than can actually be used in the course of a normal session, and co-facilitators are given the responsibility of discerning which questions might be most stimulating for their particular group.



Spiritual Practices

As mentioned in the previous syllabus segment, we again ask participants to engage in some spiritual practices over the next five weeks. These are intended to draw participants into some modest life-style adjustments or exercises that are meant to reveal and highlight some of the themes of JustFaith. These spiritual practices are assigned in Weeks Eleven, Fourteen, and Fifteen of this segment.

Closing Prayer

In many of the closing prayers, we offer a mantra prayer. We call them mantras because we hope these prayers echo in the hearts of participants throughout the coming week. If you think it would be helpful for members of your group, you could copy this mantra prayer for them to take with them at the end of the session.

Immersion Experiences

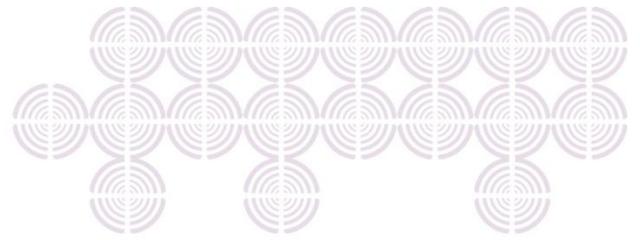
Most groups have two immersion experiences before the end of the fifteenth week. These experiences are critical to the process. Many participants have said that the experiences of meeting and hearing the stories of the poor and vulnerable added particular meaning to the whole process. Often, participants have described these experiences as profound and life changing. Again, see the “Immersion Experiences” document for more information.

Program Evaluations

The JustFaith Ministries offices will send co-facilitators links to online participant evaluations for each 10-week segment. We ask that co-facilitators forward these links to group members for the appropriate 10-week segment. The first evaluation will cover Weeks 1-10, as well as the Opening Retreat. Please remind participants to complete the electronic surveys. The program continues to be shaped and influenced by the feedback of our participants from across the country. Therefore, yours and your group’s feedback is critical to the program’s development.

Ongoing Help and Assistance

Please know that the JustFaith Ministries program director is available to assist with anything that you might need throughout the program. We especially encourage you to contact our office if you are having difficulty with your group or with the materials. It is likely that your question or concern has come up previously in other groups and that there are solutions to the struggles you might be facing.



Co-Facilitator Timetable: Weeks 11-15

Co-Facilitator Responsibilities	Do By (Date)	Done (√)
Order Books for Weeks 11-15: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Rising to Common Ground</u> (Weeks 11-13) • <u>How Much Is Enough</u> (Week 14-16) 	Four weeks before the 11 th session	
Order videos/DVDs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Come Walk in My Shoes” DVD (Week 12) • “Keeping the Earth” DVD (Week 15) 	Four weeks before the 11 th session	
Arrange for guest speaker(s) for Weeks 11 and 14 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to Syllabus Overview document 	Two weeks before the 11 th session	
Confirm and finalize arrangements for the third immersion experience	Before the 15 th session	
Arrange for video or DVD player for Weeks Twelve and Fifteen	Two weeks before the 11 th session	
Order books and video resources for Weeks 16-30	Four weeks before the 16 th session	
Arrange for speaker(s) for Weeks 18, 24 and 28 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to Syllabus Overview document 	Before the 16 th session	