



Faith Is A Shared Journey | Conrad Bess | 09.01.2024

Weekly Study

SHARE

As group members get settled, take a few minutes to check in with everyone and see how life is going. Share an exciting story from this week, your highs and lows, an answered prayer, or something you're struggling with. If someone is really struggling, rally the group around them and take a few moments to pray over them.

- **Share a high and a low from last week.**
- **What was your favorite lesson from this series that has positively influenced your faith journey? Explain.**
- **Have you ever had a moment that shaped your life forever? Explain.**

GROW

Welcome to the final week of our Bad Theology series! We hope this journey has helped you develop a better understanding of the different teachings, experiences, and beliefs that shape your personal theology. As you draw closer to God, we pray that His heart and will for your life will continue to be revealed to you.

In this week's message, "Faith Is A Shared Journey," our campus pastors challenged us to rethink our 'me and Jesus' mentality, reminding us that faith is a shared journey. Through the

story of Moses, Aaron, and Hur in Exodus 17, we see the power of community in the battles we face. Just as Moses needed support to keep his hands raised for Israel's victory, we too, need people to 'hold up our hands' in life's challenges. This isn't weakness; it's God's design for the church. We're called to both receive support and offer it to others, playing our part in God's bigger story. In our increasingly isolated world, this message invites us to embrace vulnerability, seek meaningful connections, and recognize our role in supporting others' callings.

Don't believe the lie that you have nothing to offer the world. Just as you need support at times, there are people in your life who need your strength and faith during their difficult seasons.

Read Exodus 17:8-14 NIV

- **What were your biggest takeaways from this week's message? Explain.**
- **Conrad said, "You need people, Period." Why do you think we often resist this truth? What are some barriers, emotions, experiences, or beliefs that prevent you from fully embracing the support and encouragement of a loving community?**
- **How does the scripture above demonstrate the importance of community in achieving God's purposes? Can you think of other biblical examples that illustrate this principle? What about in your own life?**
- **Conrad reminds us, "Just as much as you need people, people also need you." Are you an active participant in supporting others, or are you just a consumer? Explain.**

M O V E

While each of us has our own unique lives to live, Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 that we are all part of one body in Christ, each with a unique role to play in God's greater story. Just like Joshua fighting on the battlefield while Moses lifted up his hands on the hilltop, we all have different but equally important parts in God's plan.

When we feel overwhelmed with our own struggles, it's easy to withdraw from our support systems and communities, believing the lie that we have nothing to offer others because our own lives feel messy. But we often fail to consider how our circumstances may be interwoven into the lives of those around us and God's ultimate plan.

Moses was far from perfect, Joshua had no battle experience, and Aaron and Hur had no instructions on what to do—yet all four came together in obedience, and their shared faith created a moment that forever shaped the lives of God's people.

God isn't waiting for you to be perfect or fully put together to use you in His greater plan. He loves you as you are right now, not some future version of you. He invites you into His service, offering His presence and surrounding you with people to help you in your brokenness. Together, this journey of shared faith has the power to change not only the lives of those around us but also generations to come.

The question is: Will you lean in and say yes?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, Romans 12:10-16 NIV, Hebrews 6:10-12 NLT

- **What sticks out to you from the scriptures above? How do they relate to this week's message?**
- **How do you show your love for Christ by "caring for other believers," regardless of what's going on in your own life? How do you exercise your "faith and endurance" on a weekly basis? Explain.**
- **What role do you think God has called you to fill right now in your community/family/sphere of influence? Explain.**
- **What could He be trying to reveal to you by calling you into this season/role?**

P R A Y

Lord, thank you for designing us for community. Help us to embrace vulnerability and interdependence as we support one another. Show us how to be both receivers and givers of encouragement and strength. May our lives testify to Your goodness as we live out our faith in community. Amen.

A C T

Put this week's lessons into practice by trying one (or several) of the activities below.

- **Identify one area in your life where you've been trying to "go it alone." What's one step you can take this week to invite others into that area for support?**
- **Commit to reaching out to someone in your church or community who might be feeling isolated. Plan a specific way to encourage or support them.**
- **Reflect on your current involvement in your church or community. Is there an area where you could serve or support others more intentionally?**
- **Create a list of 3-5 people who form your support system. Make a plan to express gratitude to them this week for their role in your life.**