

CULTIVATE

LIFE TOGETHER IN THE SPIRIT



AUGUST
GROUP GUIDE

Welcome to Cultivate.

We're so glad you're here.

This month, we turn our attention to the fruit of the Spirit called faithfulness. Not simply reliability or consistency, but a steadfast way of living that grows from trusting the God who is always faithful.

Throughout Scripture, faithfulness begins with God. Before we are ever called to be faithful, we encounter a God who keeps his promises, remains present with his people, and accomplishes what he says he will do. His faithfulness is not dependent on our circumstances or our performance. It is rooted in his unchanging character.

The prophet Jeremiah declares,

“...great is your faithfulness.”

Lamentations 3:23

Because God is faithful, we can trust him. Because we trust him, we learn to become faithful ourselves.

Faithfulness is often quiet. It rarely makes headlines. More often, it looks like choosing integrity when no one is watching. Keeping our word and remaining steadfast in difficult seasons. Continuing to trust God when the outcome is uncertain.

Faithfulness is not about perfection. It is about becoming the kind of people whose lives reflect the trustworthiness of the One we follow.

Your group is one of the places where that kind of faithfulness is formed. A place where we encourage one another to trust God's promises, persevere through uncertainty, and celebrate the ordinary ways God is shaping us over time.





Personal Reflection and Practice

Look up the passages below on your own and read them slowly. As you read, notice what each passage reveals about faithfulness. What does it teach you about God's character? What does it invite you to become?

Faithfulness That Draws Near

Hebrews 10:19-25

Proverbs 3:3-4

James 4:8

Faithfulness begins with relationship. The closer we draw to God, the more our lives begin to reflect his steadfast love.

Reflection:

What helps you stay close to God during busy or difficult seasons?

Faithfulness That Risks

Matthew 25:14–30

Joshua 1:7–9

2 Corinthians 5:7

Faithfulness often requires courage. Trusting God means taking faithful steps even when we cannot see the entire path.

Reflection:

Where might God be inviting you to trust him instead of playing it safe?



Faithfulness That Provides

1 Kings 17:1–16

Matthew 6:31–34

Philippians 4:19

Faithfulness learns to trust God's provision one day at a time. Rather than living from fear or scarcity, we discover that God continues to provide what we need.

Reflection:

Where have you seen God's provision in unexpected ways?



Faithfulness That Stands Firm

Daniel 3

Ephesians 6:10–18

1 Corinthians 15:58

Faithfulness remains steady when following God becomes difficult. It chooses conviction over convenience and obedience over comfort.

Reflection:

What helps you remain faithful when life becomes challenging?



Faithfulness That Finishes Well

2 Timothy 4:6–8

Hebrews 12:1–3

Philippians 3:12–14

Faithfulness is not measured by a single moment. It is revealed through a lifetime of continuing to trust and follow Christ.

Reflection:

What does “finishing well” look like for you in this season of life?

**Faithfulness is not about never failing.
It is about continually returning to the
God who never fails.**

GROUP TIME

This outline is simply a suggested flow for your time together, not a prescription. Every group has its own rhythm and needs. Use what serves your group, release what doesn't, and trust the Spirit to guide your conversation.

AUGUST Faithfulness

Goal and Purpose: Reflect on faithfulness as a fruit of the Spirit, discover how God's faithfulness shapes our own, and encourage one another to trust God more deeply in everyday life.

Themes for the Month:

Week 1: Faithfulness That Draws Near

Week 2: Faithfulness That Risks

Week 3: Faithfulness That Provides

Week 4: Faithfulness That Stands Firm

Week 5: Faithfulness That Finishes Well

1. Welcome + Opening

Leader Says:

"Today we continue our Cultivate journey by turning our attention to faithfulness. This month isn't simply about becoming more dependable. It's about learning to trust the God who has always been faithful. As we discover his faithfulness, the Spirit begins to shape that same faithfulness within us."

Opening Questions

- Who is someone you consider deeply trustworthy? What makes them trustworthy?
- When you hear the word faithfulness, what comes to mind?

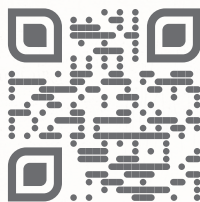
Leader Note

Faithfulness is deeply connected to trust. Encourage participants to share honestly about both the places where trusting God comes naturally and the places where it feels difficult.

2. Watch the Teaching Video

Leader Prompt

As you watch, listen for how Pastor Rich describes the connection between God's faithfulness and our own. Notice how trust shapes the way we live.



Video Summary

- Faithfulness begins with trusting God's promises.
- God is both the promise maker and the promise keeper.
- What we believe about God shapes how we live.
- Faithfulness chooses trust over fear and scarcity.

- God's faithfulness frees us to become trustworthy people.
- Jesus calls us to let our yes be yes and our no be no.

After the Video Individually Reflect:

- What stood out to you most in the video?
 - Which story or illustration helped you understand faithfulness in a new way?
 - How does your view of God influence the way you respond to uncertainty?
 - What would it look like to let your yes be yes this week? How does that change your understanding and experience with faithfulness?
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3. Hear the Word

Invite two people to read the passage slowly.

Scripture Focus: Hebrews 10:23

"Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful."

Leader Says:

"As you listen, don't try to solve or explain the passage. Simply notice the word or phrase that captures your attention."

Allow one minute of silence.

4. Personal Reflection

- Which word or phrase stood out to you?
 - What does this verse teach you about God's character?
 - Where are you being invited to trust God's faithfulness more deeply?
 - How might that trust shape your own faithfulness?
 - Why do hope and faithfulness go hand-in-hand?
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5. Shared Reflection

- What stayed with you from the passage?
- How does God's faithfulness give us confidence to remain faithful?
- Where have you seen someone's faithfulness reflect the character of God?
- Why is hope imperative to understanding faithfulness?



6. Closing

Leader Encouragement

Faithfulness is often formed in ordinary moments. It grows every time we choose to trust God's promises, keep our word, and remain present with him and with others. As we continue to rely on God's faithfulness, the Spirit shapes us into people whose lives quietly reflect his character.

This month, encourage your group members to notice the moments where they feel the Holy Spirit nudging them to trust in God's sovereignty. Then, ask them to keep track of those moments in a journal or the space below. Mark them as holy and encourage them to give thanks for God's faithfulness in continuing to shepherd and grow his disciples in each of us.

*In your meeting next month, be sure to invite a shared reflection on these moments. It is with joy that we recall moments in which God has been faithful to us so that we can experience hope and be faithful to him in return.

Closing Prayer

Faithful God,

Thank you for keeping every promise you have made.

When we are uncertain, remind us that you are trustworthy.

When we are tempted to rely on ourselves, teach us to trust your provision.

Help us become people whose words can be trusted, whose lives reflect your character, and whose faith remains steady through every season.

May our yes be yes.

May our no be no.

And may our lives point others to your unfailing faithfulness.

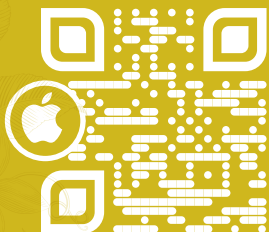
Amen.



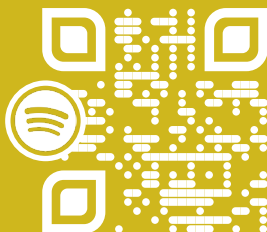
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We invite you to listen to our podcasts and watch our
videos, where you'll find teaching, conversations, and
encouragement to continue your cultivation journey.

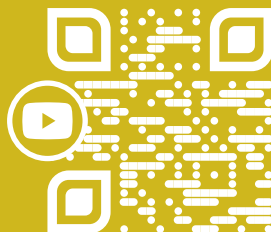
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Throughout 2026, we invite
you to journey with us
through Cultivate.

Each month, a guide is
offered to support reflection,
conversation and growth
as we walk together.



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