

Session 4

Team Huddle Notes

HOW CAN I HAVE FAITH?

Alpha

Session 4

Team Huddle Notes

HOW CAN I HAVE FAITH?



WELCOME

The following notes are designed to help you confidently lead a team huddle that will prepare your hosts and helpers each week, whether your Alpha is meeting in person or online.

This guide is designed to give you ideas and relevant information to share with your team. We don't recommend utilizing this as a script, but rather a set of talking points.

If you are leading Alpha in person, you may want to extend the worship time to include several songs. If you are doing Alpha online, you can screen share a song of worship to help the team set their hearts on worship. YouTube has a great assortment of worship songs and videos that you can share during this time.

Plan on the team huddle to be roughly 20-25 minutes.

6-10 Minutes: Prayer

5 Minutes: Administration

10-15 Minutes: Small Group Coaching

If you are running your Alpha online, be sure to log in to MyAlpha and find this companion resource, Complete Guide to Alpha Online. You will find a list of other helpful links at the end of these notes.

We have created a separate pdf that includes icebreakers and discussion questions for your hosts and helpers. You can send it to your team in preparation for each week. Log in to MyAlpha "Materials" to find these host/helper notes.

Would you like to connect with and get to know other Alpha leaders? **Grow Alpha** is an online training opportunity to help uniquely equip and empower your Alpha team and leadership, while **Alpha Connect** provides an opportunity to connect with others who are running Alpha. Find out more here.

We are praying for you,

The Alpha Team

PRAYER WITH THE TEAM

The session talk is "How can I have faith?"

1 Corinthians 2:1-5 *"When I came to you, I did not come with eloquence or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power."*

Pray for our faith not to rest on human wisdom but on God's power.

Notes

P - Pause

Invite the Holy Spirit to come, wait in silence, and welcome his presence.

R - Rejoice

Thank God:

- That our faith is not in ourselves but rests in him!
- That he is using us to help the guests discover a relationship with Jesus.
- That he is already at work—even if we cannot see it!

A - Ask

Ask God to work in the guests, as he did in Matthew 13:4-8:

- Vs 4 *"As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up."* **Pray for guests who immediately forget what they hear when they leave Alpha each week.**
- Vs 5-6 *"Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root."* **Pray for guests who can't seem to get beyond the surface and are avoiding deep hurts and pain.**
- Vs 7 *"Other seeds fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants."* **Pray for guests who are struggling with the worries of the world and how this is choking their faith.**
- Vs 8 *"Still, other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop – a hundred, sixty, or thirty times what was sown. Whoever has ears, let them hear."* **Pray for guests who are hearing and receiving the good news of Jesus.**

Ask God for the team:

- For a fresh revelation of your own forgiveness right now. Receive his forgiveness.
- For ears to hear and eyes to see how God is already at work in the lives of the guests.
- For God to use the hosts and helpers in their questions.

Y - Yield

John Wimber famously said, "Faith is spelled R-I-S-K!" Faith has been described as putting your full weight on something, like sitting on a chair.

Yield to God's power and not our own human wisdom. Pray for God's presence during this session.

ADMIN



IN-PERSON



ONLINE

- At this point in Alpha, we want to protect the chemistry of the small groups that are forming. If new guests show up, this may be the last week you would want to add someone to an existing group. In weeks to come, add new guests to a "newcomers group," and encourage those guests to attend your next Alpha if they want to watch any sessions that they missed.
- If your group has a new guest, take time to ask them, "How and why did you end up coming here today?"
- Update the registration list. Add new names, and correct any mistakes from the list last week.
- Continue to pray by name daily for your guests and small group leaders.
- The team training for the Alpha weekend will be on _____. This training is very important for all hosts and helpers to attend. We will talk about how to pray for guests during the Alpha weekend, as well as week 9 when we look at "Does God heal today?".
- If you are using worship songs for larger Alphas (groups of over 30 people), either live or a video, keep it to one or two songs. It is okay to repeat a song from last week. Plan to use these songs on the Alpha weekend.

Notes

HOST AND HELPER NOTES

IN-PERSON ONLINE

SMALL GROUP COACHING

BIG IDEA

This week we are looking at the evidence for believing in Christianity. Many will still be exploring faith, so continue to let them ask questions and allow the group to respond.

1. Encourage them to consider what obstacles might keep them from having faith.
2. Remember that this is a week for guests to reflect out loud. You are not trying to push people toward any conclusion or correct any ideas they may have. Just listen and encourage. Trust that Jesus IS at the door of their heart!
3. Nicky Gumbel wrote a book called *Searching Issues* that tackles many of the core questions that come up each week of Alpha. You may buy the book here or download it for free here.

Notes



GROUP GOAL

For guests to feel comfortable sharing their thoughts. Keep the tone casual and low pressure. Find ways to laugh together.

PERSONAL GOAL

Pray that each guest continues to open their heart to Jesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:



Icebreaker:

What is your favorite meal now, or what was your favorite meal growing up? (During the discussion time you can reference this meal with the scripture, Revelation 3:20, that was shared in the video: "Behold I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person...").

1. What does it mean to have faith in something or someone?
2. How can you have faith in something you cannot see?
3. How do you feel/what do you think about the idea of a relationship with God?
4. Encourage guests to consider what obstacles might keep them from having faith.
5. Consider discussing the picture of the famous painting, "The Light of the World" by Holman Hunt, that was referenced in the video. Here is a link to the painting: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Light_of_the_World_(painting).

(Online) You can share your screen with this image.

Here are a few questions to consider with this painting:

- What time of day do you think it is?
- What could it mean that the vines are growing up over the door?
- Any thoughts on why Jesus isn't actually looking at the door?
- If you could put yourself in this painting, what would you be doing?

Helpful links: Start by logging in to MyAlpha

1. Alpha Best Practice Videos - https://run.alphausa.org/training/7-best-practices
2. Learning Center - https://run.alphausa.org/training
3. Complete Guide to Alpha Online - https://run.alphausa.org/training/running-alpha-online-new/complete-guide-to-alpha-online-pdf-new

We'd love to hear from you.

Thank you for running Alpha! We are praying for you and your team.

Please contact **1-800-Do-Alpha** or email us at **questions@alphausa.org** if you need any further information or support.

We'd also love to hear your Alpha stories. Submit your stories at **alphausa.org/share-your-story.**

