

April 10/11: **God & You:** Life with God requires ongoing obedience.

Introduction

God is always at work around us. God invites us to participate in His ongoing activity. Each day He is asking us to get caught up in His story, and we have the opportunity to accept God's invitation. Life with God requires ongoing obedience, but sometimes we miss opportunities to join God's work. Maybe we are distracted, or maybe it's difficult to hear God's voice in our life. Still, God continues to invite us into His story and it's never too late to accept the offer.

Discussion

For you, what does it mean that "life with God requires ongoing obedience"?

Can you think of a time when you felt God inviting you to be obedient? How did you respond? What was it like?

As a group, read James 2:14-25 and discuss what you think James is saying about the relationship between faith and good deeds.

Do you know someone whose faith and actions "work together"? What inspires you about this person's faithful obedience?

Are there parts of your life where your faith and obedience aren't working together? What is a good next step for you?

Think about it

Sometimes we know God is inviting us to take a step of obedience, but we are afraid to take it. Maybe we are afraid of being rejected, or being out of control, or maybe we are afraid of letting God down. If you feel comfortable, spend some time exploring the fears that keep you from living life with God. What fear most hinders ongoing obedience in your life?

If you know someone who is afraid of taking a step of obedience, how can you encourage them? Are there creative ways to remind them of God's trustworthiness and love?

Do something

Memorize John 14:23 and consider how God is asking you to be obedient this week.

Is God inviting you to take an obedient step with Him? Take that step this week and join God's story. You aren't alone; tell a friend or spouse and include them in your step of obedience.

How has trust in God been expressed in your life? What increases your trust in God? As you think about these questions, ask God to reveal opportunities to join His work and increase your trust.