



# SMALL GROUP LEADER GUIDE

Mine / Week 5

PRELUDE

SOCIAL

WORSHIP

STORY

GROUPS

HOME

## LEADER PREP

### BOTTOM LINE

Dealing with doubt is part of growing your faith.

### SCRIPTURE

*Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?" "From childhood," he answered. "It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us." "If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for one who believes." Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!" (Mark 9:21-24 NIV).*

### GOAL OF SMALL GROUP

To help students understand that talking about their doubts can actually do more to grow their faith than weaken it.

### THINK ABOUT THIS

Leaders—while we know dealing with doubt is a healthy part of faith development, many high schoolers are processing doubt for the first time and that can be scary. As leaders, our job isn't to provide all the answers but to create a safe place for them to ask any kind of question.

## CONVERSATION GUIDE

**Create meaningful conversation. Adjust the questions as needed, and don't feel like you need to answer all of them.**

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Give an example of a time that someone told you something and you didn't believe it.
2. Do you feel like doubt is something everyone struggles with? Why or why not?
3. Being quiet about our doubts actually hurts our faith. How can being honest about our doubts help our faith grow?
4. Jesus wasn't angry when the man talked about his doubts. How can we as a group make sure this is a safe place to talk about our doubts?
5. Is there a certain area in your life where you need Jesus to help you with your unbelief?
6. What are some steps you can take to deal with your doubt? (e.g. talking with a trusted friend, talking with a small group leader, searching for answers, praying about it)

### TRY THIS

Leaders—if similar doubts continue to come up, consider coming up with a game plan with your group to search for answers and talk to older, wiser people who may have insight in that area. Finally, remind your students that not all questions have answers, but there's value asking questions and determining what that means for you.