

Faith Tested

Life Group Questions for June 7, 2026
Count the Stars Sermon Series

Welcome & Check-In

- Icebreaker question:
What is the longest you've ever waited for something you really wanted?
- *Where have you seen God at work in your life since we last met?*

FOLLOWING JESUS: Scripture & Reflection

1. Read Genesis 22:1-18 out loud as a group.
What words or phrases stand out to you?
What questions do you have?
2. In Genesis 22:1-2, God asks Abraham to surrender Isaac, the very promise God had given him.
What does this passage teach us about the difference between trusting God's gifts and trusting God Himself?
3. Read James 1:2-4 and Hebrews 11:17-19.
How have seasons of uncertainty, disappointment, or waiting revealed what you truly trust?
Looking back, can you see ways God used those experiences to deepen your faith?
Share one example from your own life of how you have seen yourself mature because your faith was tested.
4. Re-read Genesis 22:12
How does this verse and all of chapter 22 reshape your understanding of what it means to fear the Lord?
What are you currently withholding from God?

IN COMMUNITY: Sharing & Support

5. In Genesis 22:2, God asks Abraham to surrender what he loves most — his son Isaac. Ryan emphasized that the things that we love most were gifts from God in the first place. This testing of Abraham surfaced both his own trust and God's faithfulness.
Read through the following questions, then share your answers with your group:
What do you love most?
What are you most afraid of losing?
Which of these is hardest to surrender back to God?
Is there an area of your life right now where you feel stretched, uncertain, or called to trust God beyond what you can see?
What do you trust more — the provider or the provision?

How can this group support you in your current journey?

ON MISSION: Next Steps

6. God tells Abraham that through his obedience, "all the nations of the earth shall be blessed" (Genesis 22:18).

Where might God be inviting you to say "yes" today, knowing that your faithfulness could impact your family, friends, workplace, or community?

7. Revisit and add to your prayer list, then pray for one another.

Prayer:

Together, pray the following "Prayer of Relinquishment" by Theologian and Author Richard Foster:

Today, O Lord, I yield myself to you.

May your will be my delight today.

May your way have perfect sway in me.

May your love be the pattern of my living.

I surrender to you my hopes, my dreams, my ambitions. Do with them what you will, when you will, as you will.

I place into your loving care my family, my friends, my future. Care for them with a care that I can never give.

*I release into your hands my need to control,
my craving for status,
my fear of obscurity.*

Eradicate the evil, pacify the good, and establish your kingdom on earth.

For Jesus' sake. Amen.

For Further Reflection this Week:

Read the following Scripture passage in Luke and the Prayer of Relinquishment by St. Ignatius of Loyola, then write your own prayer of relinquishment.

- Luke 9:23-26
- The Suscipe by St. Ignatius of Loyola
*Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,
my memory, my understanding,
and my entire will,
all I have and call my own.
You have given all to me.
To you, Lord, I return it.
Everything is yours; do with it what you will.
Give me only your love and your grace,
that is enough for me.*