

## Course Syllabus

Course: Leap of faith 1 – The Apostle Peter

Description: Learning about faith by examining the circumstances and events surrounding Peter's walk on water

The course is broken into 4 units. Each unit is intended to be approximately 30 minutes long, including the material reviews and group discussion. The last unit is an assessment to measure comprehension and retention of the topic.

The Group leader should agree with his group members on the best day and time for each class, preferably the same day each week. Please consider a schedule that does not conflict with other ministry activities at your church(es).

Please follow the syllabus to guide the learning sessions. The material is organized to work best as group discussions, with participation and contribution from all in attendance.

Please respect the time allocation. The group leader is responsible to manage the time and the flow of the exchange.

Begin each session with prayer.

At the beginning of Unit 1, consider an icebreaker to allow the group members to be acquainted with one another. For example each member could give their name, how they learned about the class, and what they hope to gain from the class.

### **Unit 1: Introduction and scripture review**

#### 1.1 Introduction presentation – 15 minutes

- Read the “Think about”, and allow a brief moment of reflection from the group. The purpose is the set the stage for the topic at hand;
- On the question “what a leap of faith means to me”, encourage every member to write down up to 3 answers; short phrases are appropriate. A recommendation to collect the responses would be to use a tool such as “ahaslides” to motivate participation from all, especially those who may feel intimidated;
- Discuss the responses, especially any trends that may show;
- Use the same approach on the next question;

#### 1.2 Reading assignment1 – 5 minutes

- Consider asking different people to read a few verses each;
- Encourage observations by all members for key words and phrases;
- Briefly share the highlights observed “from the reading”; this will serve as a lead into the group discussion;

#### 1.3 Group discussion 1 – 10 minutes

- Consider assigning each question to a different member of the group, to encourage direct participation; try to draw as much from the passage as possible;
- Ensure the group to stays focused on the topic;

Summarize the discussion, announce the focus for the next session, and ask someone to close in prayer.

## **Unit 2: Faith Challenges**

### 2.1 Clip 1 – 5 minutes

- After viewing, have the group to give a brief reflection on the clip;

### 2.2 Group discussion 2 – 15 minutes

- Consider using “ahaslides” to capture group responses on faith challenges; encourage maximum group participation;
- Read and discuss the definition / explanation of faith; encourage paraphrase for comprehension;
- Get 2 group members to lead the Q&A on Mat.14:27;
- Read Heb.11:5-6, and give members 5 minutes to fill the blanks in the top questions; Let the members share and discuss their answers for consensus;
- Discuss the answer on the purpose of faith, focusing on Heb.11:5-6.

### 2.3 Clip 2 – 5 minutes

- View and reflect on the clip, focusing on the role and centrality of Christ Jesus in our faith.

Summarize the discussion, announce the focus for the next session, and ask someone to close in prayer.

## **Unit 3 – Peter’s leap of faith**

### 3.1 Clip 3 – 5 minutes

- After viewing, have the group to give a brief reflection on the clip;

### 3.2 Group discussion 3 – What hinders our faith – 15 minutes

- Lead the discussion on “unbelief” and “doubt”.

### 3.3 Group discussion 4 – Peter’s leap of faith

- Consider assigning the questions to different members in the group for maximum participation;
- At the end of the series, ask each member to summarize their takeaway from this series, and to give at least one personal application they’d commit to enact from what they have learned.

Conclude with the reading and reflection of Heb.11:6.

Close in prayer.

## **Unit 4 – Wrap-up**

Suggest each member to take the final assessment before the class;

Spend time during the session to review the responses, sharing and edifying each other.