



The Hard Sayings of Jesus

Choose from the options below to enrich your Talk Time. Invite group members to take turns leading one or more of the following:

IMAGES

1. Choose either the cover photo, cartoon or painting by Dr. He Qi (back page).
2. Where are you in this work of art?
3. How might the art and the theme verse relate to each other?
4. How might the art relate to your highs and lows?

ROLE PLAY

Assign roles and take turns acting out the following:

1. A classmate says, "If God is all loving and all powerful, how can God allow all the suffering in the world? Either God isn't powerful enough to stop it, or God isn't loving enough to care. Either way, God isn't worth worshiping." Respond.
2. A friend says, "If you have doubts about God and Jesus and the Bible, you aren't a real Christian." Respond.

QUESTIONS TO PONDER

1. If you were a wrestling coach, what advice would you give your squad before a big meet? Relate this advice to someone wrestling with God.
2. Of all the questions listed in the "Tough Ten", which one do you struggle with the most?
3. If you are plagued by doubts, is it still possible to be a Christian? Why?

QUOTATIONS

Choose a quotation (right column) and share your thoughts and questions about it.

Jesus does not give recipes that show the way to God as other teachers of religion do. He is himself the way.

Karl Barth

Do not follow where the path may lead. Follow God, instead, where there is no path and leave a trail.

Anonymous

Struggle is wonderful. Failure is fabulous. Poverty is the greatest wealth maker of all.

Julie Newmar

The sad truth is that most evil is done by people who never make up their minds to be either good nor evil.

Hannah Arendt

I believe in Christianity as I believe that the sun has risen: not only because I see it, but because by it I see everything else.

C.S. Lewis



Write a definition...

AGNOSTIC

ATHEIST

CHRISTIAN

DOUBT

FAITH



Jesus on Easter Morning by Dr. He Qi (www.heqigallery.com)



PRAY
for one another's
highs and lows

Gather in a circle. Praise and thank God for your highs. Ask the Holy Spirit to be with you in your lows. Pray for your friend's highs and lows and for your world. Close in Jesus' name.

Prayers for Highs

Prayers for Lows



BLESS
one another

Trace the sign of the cross on one another's foreheads or palms.

**REMEMBER
1 THING**

Don't be afraid of hard questions. God is big enough to handle even the toughest ones. If you have serious doubts, maybe a serious search for God is in order.



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