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# GOD BEFRIENDS

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Leader, please make these available to your group.  
*Christmas Services*

*We have several different ways to invite your friends and family to church. We have two different kinds of invites in the church lobby that you are free to take and use to invite as many people as you'd like.*

*We also have the cool window stickers for your car or business window that we are asking for a \$5 donation for because they were expensive to produce. Please get one at the connect desk this Sunday.*

*And - if you have our CCLV app - open it right now and click on the Christmas graphic at the top. See the top header in blue with the QR code? If you are talkin to anyone about Christmas and don't have an invite card handy just open your phone and have your friend scan the QR code and they will instantly have all the info from our Christmas webpage in their hand!*



Invite someone to Christmas  
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Christmas at Calvary



December 23 & 24



# START HERE

# GOD BEFRIENDS

Week 19 | The Friends Of God Believe God | Genesis 15:1-6

## GOD SAYS TO YOU “DON’T BE AFRAID. YOU HAVE ME.”

According to organizations that study these things, there are approximately 4,300 religions worldwide. These various religions shape people’s understanding of God and their worldview. Looking at this from a human perspective, it would seem that when it comes to belief in God, there are 4,300 legitimate options to choose from. A virtual panoply of possibilities, each being valid in their own right. But what if God has spoken on the matter through divine revelation? What if God has identified both the process and the point of how we “get” to Him? If He has, then we’ve been provided with the means of sifting through the array of options and discovering the one that is true. Good news. Through Abraham, God did this very thing. It’s expressed in the simple verse, “And Abraham believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness.” In Abraham’s agony of indecision, he chose to believe God, laying the groundwork for our New Testament understanding of salvation!

Leaders: Take your group through each section: Pray, Reflect, and Reach. Keep in mind the time allowances. In the Reflect section, feel free to focus on several of these questions instead of all as time allows.



### PRAY (10 min)

As a Life Group, take time to share about how God has helped you through times of doubt and unbelief. Pray for strength to continually believe in Him.



### REFLECT (25 min)

As you’ve had the opportunity to reflect on what God has spoken to you through the lesson this week, consider these questions as a group and discuss them.

1. **Is there an area of your life where you’ve had a difficult time believing God for something, or you’ve been struggling with doubt? What do you think is at the root of your doubt? Have you been honest with God about your struggle? How do you plan on moving from unbelief to belief, trusting God with this situation?**

**Belief doesn’t mean the absence of doubt. It means that while you are struggling with doubt you make the choice to believe.**

2. God leads Abraham out of doubt by revelation and reason. Revelation concerning who and what He is to Abraham and, based on that, belief as a reasonable response to those truths. In other words, God was saying to him, "Because I am your shield and exceedingly great reward you have every reason to believe me."

**What aspects of God's self-revelation do you need to focus your faith on? Write down specific Scriptures that apply to areas of doubt and fear that you can anchor your soul to.**

**God doesn't call us to take a leap in the dark. He calls us to take a step in the light.**  
**Norman Geisler**

**God, I believe You are who You say You are, and that You will fulfill the promises You have made to me.**

3. One of the most important verses in the Bible is Genesis 15:6, "And he believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness."

**Based on the study, what does this verse teach us about how we "get" to God? Consider also how Paul used this verse in Romans and Galatians. What does this verse teach us about the process and point of salvation? Include relevant Scripture verses.**



## WEEKLY MEMORIZATION VERSE

**Genesis 15:6**

"And he (Abraham) believed in the LORD, and He accounted it to him for righteousness."



## REACH (5 min)

Considering what God revealed to you this week, expect God to help you overcome an area of doubt that you've been struggling with. Make the choice to believe based on trust in what God has revealed to you about Himself through Scripture.

**Next week we will be anxiously waiting to hear about how your life was impacted by God as He strengthened you to believe Him.**