

starting[®] point

PART 1: START

Everything in life has a starting point. Your education had a starting point. Your career had a starting point. Your romantic life had a starting point. Your experience as a parent had a starting point. Faith has a starting point as well.

During childhood, you may have been handed a faith framework through which you began to view the world. For many of us, that childhood faith didn't survive the challenges and pressures of adulthood. So, if we're going to begin the process of discovering or rediscovering our faith, where do we start?

CONNECT

1. What kind of faith or religion was part of your upbringing, if any?
2. How would you describe where you currently are with faith (curious about faith, new to faith, returning to faith, or something else)?

DISCUSS THE PODCAST EPISODE

1. What comes to mind when you hear someone talk about "The Bible"?
2. What comes to mind when you hear someone talk about Jesus?

LEARN

Watch the short video.

APPLY

After giving your group members an opportunity to share what stood out from the video, discuss the following questions as a group:

1. Conversations about faith tend to bring up lots of questions. Do you agree that the most important question is "Who is Jesus?" Why or why not?
2. Have you ever heard the idea that the Christian faith is not about what Jesus said before he died, but about what happened after he died? What thoughts, feelings, or questions does that surface for you?



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BEFORE NEXT TIME

The starting point for the Christian faith isn't "The Bible says..." It's a person—the person of Jesus. That's why the most important question to ask as you start or restart your faith is simply, "Who is Jesus?"

Be sure to listen to the "Problem" episode of *The Starting Point Podcast*.

PRAY

Take some time to thank God for a group where you can share your thoughts, ideas, and experiences about faith for the next eight sessions. Ask him to guide your discussions as you begin this journey together.

