





# COMMUNITY GUIDE

October 27th, 2024

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## WEEKLY APPLICATION

**TAKEAWAY:** There's a difference between beliefs and faith. Beliefs are important, but they should lead to deep, relational faith in God.

**HEAD CHANGE:** Our beliefs are formed through three stages: construction, deconstruction, and reconstruction.

**HEART CHANGE:** Reconstruction leads to a faith that doesn't waver and is deeply rooted in Jesus.

**LIFE CHANGE:** In our current cultural moment, there's a push and pull challenging our beliefs. We must be mindful of how we navigate this.

## OVERVIEW

In our journey of faith, we often find ourselves navigating through stages of construction, deconstruction, and reconstruction. We are challenged to examine our beliefs and how they shape our faith. 2 Thessalonians 2, urges us to 'stand firm and keep a strong grip on the teachings we passed on to you.' As we explore this, we're reminded that true faith leads us to want true beliefs. In our current cultural moment, we're pushed and pulled by various influences, but we must remember that the nicest sounding beliefs aren't necessarily the right ones. Jesus warned us in John 15 that the world might hate us for our beliefs, but that shouldn't deter us from seeking truth. As we wrestle with our faith, let's approach it with both courage and compassion, always looking to Jesus as our interpretive lens for understanding God's heart. This message invites us to develop a faith that doesn't waver, one that's deeply rooted in Jesus and His love, even when it puts us at odds with the surrounding culture.

*"With all these things in mind, dear brothers and sisters, stand firm and keep a strong grip on the teaching we passed on to you both in person and by letter."*

2 Thessalians 2:15

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. In what ways can we balance the need for firm beliefs with humility and openness to growth in our faith journey?
2. How can we navigate the tension between holding to biblical truths and showing empathy towards those deconstructing their faith?
3. How can we discern between healthy deconstruction that leads to deeper faith and deconstruction that risks abandoning faith altogether?
4. How can we effectively communicate our beliefs in a way that is both true to scripture and compelling to a skeptical world?

## CLOSE IN PRAYER

Lord, help us to be people who don't just believe the right things, but who deeply trust and follow You. Guide us through the stages of our faith journey, and help us to stand firm in Your truth while showing Your love to the world around us. May our faith be deeply rooted in Jesus, compelling to others, and transformative in our lives. Amen.

**IN THIS TOGETHER!**