



The Hard Sayings of Jesus



SHARE

your highs and lows

Break into pairs.
Listen carefully and
record your partner's
thoughts in the space
provided. Then return
to small group and
share your friend's
highs and lows.

MY HIGH THIS WEEK

MY LOW THIS WEEK

MY FRIEND'S HIGH THIS WEEK

MY FRIEND'S LOW THIS WEEK



READ

**and highlight
the theme verse
in your Bible**

"I am the way, and the truth,
and the life. No one comes to the Father
except through me."

John 14:6



TALK

**about how the
Bible reading
might relate to
your highs
and lows**

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 the Holy Spirit to be with you in your lows. Pray for highs and lows and for your world. Close in Jesus'

highs. Ask your friend's 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.



FAITH
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