

Asking for a Friend: What are the essential of the Christian faith?

April 5, 2026 Discussion Guide

Scripture reading: 1 Corinthians 15, Ephesians 2:1-10, 1 Timothy 1:15-17

CHECK UP:

*Memory work: remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save them from death and cover over a multitude of sins. – James 5:20

*How did you depend on God and others this past week?

OPEN:

- What was a highlight in your week this past week? What was a particular challenge you had?
- If you were asked, what are the essentials of the Christian faith, how would you answer?

DISCUSS:

- In light of the sermon, how is it helpful to frame the “essentials of the Christian faith” in the grand story of the world?
- Summarize the four parts of the grand story of the world, and how it relates to the essentials of the Christian faith (Creation, fall, redemption, restoration).

READ and DISCUSS: Genesis 1:1, 26-31; Genesis 6:5-8; 1 Corinthians 15, Ephesians 2:1-10, 1 Timothy 1:15-17

- How do these passages speak to key truths of the Christian faith, and how do they fit into God’s grand story of the world?

APPLY:

- How does knowing the grand story of God’s world encourage you?
 - o How do you need to better conform to the reality of God’s world?
 - o How can use the “grand story framing” to talk with people about God?
- NEXT STEP: Which area are you most challenged: in knowing God’s story of the world, conforming to God’s story of the world, or sharing God’s story of the world?

Memory Work:

For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, and then to the Twelve. – 1 Corinthians 15:3-4

Next Week’s Reading:

Matthew 1:21; John 1:1-5; John 10:18, John 11:25-6; John 14:6-7; Acts 4:12;
Romans 3:10-12; 1 Timothy 2:3-6; Hebrews 1:1-3; Hebrews 4:14-16