

Grant, O merciful God, that your Church, being gathered together in unity by your Holy Spirit, may show forth your power among all peoples, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

LOOK

It would be a dangerous experiment to open the Bible randomly in an effort to learn what it means to lead a life of faith. You might luck out and turn to Matthew 11 and read this: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." But you might open this passage from Mark 8: "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me."

1. What do you consider a difficult teaching of our faith? How do you deal with it?

BOOK *John 6:56-69* Jesus teaches in public for all to hear.

1. What are the difficult teachings for you within this passage?
2. Which teachings are easier to accept? Why?
3. Why does Peter stick around after the others cut out? Do you think he understands the teaching?
4. What is the difference between understanding and accepting?

TOOK

Jesus asks us to abide in him. Maybe the rest will flow...

1. How is God drawing you to him right now? (v. 65)
2. What "words of eternal life" can you receive from Christ and pass along to someone else who needs to hear them?