

Week One | I'm on the Edge | 04.23-24.2022

Grow Deep Conversation Questions: Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90-minute group gathering.

Series Recap: For some people, church is so scary because of where they've been or what they've done. There are things that everyone should know but we forget to tell people, let's remember or learn for the first time the hope we can have in God.

>> Opening (3 minutes)

- Introductions This is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members.
- Housekeeping Clarify expectations:
 - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting.
 - Remember, there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.
- Pray Open your time together in prayer.

>> Introduction (12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: Describe the people in the family you grew up with.
- Digging Deeper: James has a unique personal story of accepting His brother as His Lord. What were the unique aspects of you submitting your life to Jesus as your Lord?
- **Observation** | Read James 1:12-18; Colossians 3:11

(12 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to this passage? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?
- >> Key Principle | Looking for someone to point the finger at for your temptation? Get a mirror.

(12 minutes)

- How does temptation point out the areas in life that you are most discontented with? How is that useful? Challenging?
- >>> Pressure Perfects | Reread James 1:12; Hebrews 12:1-11; 1 Peter 5:4

(12 minutes)

- How do pressure, discipline, and love work together to achieve God's plan in the lives of believers?
- Does the pressure of discipline lead us closer to or farther from Jesus? Why?
- >>> Pride Deflects | Reread James 1:13; 1 Corinthians 10:6-13; Obadiah 3-4

(12 minutes)

- Why does it say that temptation is "common to man"? Do we consider our temptations common or unique?
- How do we deceive ourselves when we deny that our temptation is born outside of God?
- Process Effects | Read James 1:14-15; 1 John 1:5-10; Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Colossians 3:5-11

(12 minutes)

- What does it mean to walk "in the light" and "in his ways"? How does that walk "choose life"?
- How does denial of our earthly desires promote a life of blessing and goodness? How is that a daily choice?

\gg Next Steps and Prayer \mid

(15 minutes)

- What are the changes in your pursuit of God that need to be made in order for you to pick a different path of purpose in the days ahead?
- Close by praying for one another to recognize the ways we have been deceived and to "choose life" instead.

