

Small Groups

DISCUSSION GUIDE

“UNCOMMON” PART 1

PASTOR BLACKBURN & PASTOR SELLERS – SEPTEMBER 13, 2026

AS THE DISCUSSION LEADER, THERE ARE A FEW THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND:

- Pray for your group discussion time!
- Review your notes from the Sunday message and familiarize yourself with the discussion questions before your group meeting.
- Choose a few questions from the guide that will generate the most discussion in your group.

GETTING TO KNOW ME (ICEBREAKER):

- If you could do one thing that you have never done before, with no fear of failure, what would it be and why?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- **How would you describe your faith?** Hebrews 11:1 says faith is “confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” If you were to rate your faith walk from 1–10 based on last week, what number would you give yourself, and why?
- **What can we learn from Jesus being amazed?** Read Mark 6:5–6 and Matthew 8:8–10. Jesus was amazed at the lack of faith in one story and the great faith of a centurion in another. What do these two stories teach us about the kind of faith that pleases God?
- **What does it mean to get out of the boat?** Read Matthew 14:22–33. Peter stepped out of the boat to walk toward Jesus. What are some “boats” of comfort, fear, or security that can keep us from taking a step of faith?
- **How does fear of failure affect our faith?** Pastor Blackburn said, “Failure is often the first step to discovering God and His miraculous power.” Have you ever let fear of failure keep you from doing something God was prompting you to do? What helped you move forward—or what is still holding you back?
- **How do we keep believing when the answer is delayed?** Read Hebrews 11:8–13. The heroes of faith continued trusting God even when they had not received the promise. What can we learn from their perseverance? How can we encourage someone who has prayed for a long time and is still waiting?
- **How can we live uncommon faith together?** Pastor Blackburn emphasized that faith grows through prayer, relationships, and the power of believers joining together. Read Matthew 18:19–20. How can this small group help one another take greater steps of faith and believe God for the needs around us?
- **What is your next step of faith?** The message challenged us to be “faith-filled, big-thinking, bet-the-farm risk-takers.” What is one specific step of faith God may be asking you to take this week? How can this group pray for you and help you follow through?

PRAY FOR OUR MISSIONARIES:

- Ken & Kendra Doult (Kaden, Kaleb, and KyAnna) – **Nicaragua**
- Jeffrey & Michele Dove – **Life Publishers International**

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Monday, September 14** – Fall Small Groups kick off today! Go to victorylakeland.org to find a Small Group.
- **Wednesday, September 16** – Remember all Victory Life Classes, Support Groups, Royal Rangers, Girl’s Ministries, and VSC! (6:30 PM)
- **Saturday, September 26** – Ladies “Together Again” Fall Brunch from 9:30–11 AM, in the Family Life Center. Tickets are \$15, on sale in the lobby and online (victorylakeland.org/events).
- **Saturday, October 3** – Men’s Breakfast, at 7:30 AM, in the Family Life Center. Jeff Shills, the Florida Director for Idols Aside Ministries, which reaches fatherless youth and families with the Gospel. Tickets are \$10, on sale in the lobby and online (victorylakeland.org/events).