

LIVING IN THE YES! LEADER'S GUIDE – CHAPTER 3: CAN I EVER DO ENOUGH GOOD TO BE "GOOD ENOUGH"?

RECAP:

- ✓ WEEK 1- Understanding God's amazing invitation- *to more, better life*
- ✓ WEEK 2 – What is God really like? *He is faithful, loving, and good!*



- WEEK 3 – Is God still good when life feels bad? *YES! In those moments, GOD is not punishing us. He is walking with us through this fallen world.*

PLAN to break people up into smaller discussion groups of 3-6 each.

How many PEOPLE? _____

How many GROUPS? _____

PRINT :

- HANDOUT (2 pages) – 1 set per PERSON
- OPTIONAL Paper Block Page – 1 per PERSON
- OPTIONAL What Does God Say? – 1 per GROUP

GET :

- Pens AND MARKERS for everyone
- (OPTIONAL) Scissors, tape, and candy for each group

SETUP :

- You will have additional setup, depending on which activity you choose. See the directions that follow.

LEADER'S NOTES: Unanswered questions can cause people lifelong pain. The goal is not to get everyone to agree, or even to make someone tell their story if they are not ready to do so. We want to give people a chance to grapple with these tough questions, and to know that God cares about their pain.

If someone has heard, "God did this to punish you," that is NOT New Testament theology. (See 2 Corinthians 5:17-21.) They will need extra compassion and comfort, and you might want to set aside ministry time afterwards for anyone who needs it.

This meeting could be a huge breakthrough for someone who has struggled with these questions. Everyone who comes can feel seen, heard, and valued as they share. If these things happen, this meeting will be a great success.

Find more resources online at: www.livingintheYES.com/chapter-3

LIVING IN THE YES! AGENDA – CHAPTER 3:

CAN I EVER DO ENOUGH GOOD TO BE “GOOD ENOUGH”?

Welcome everyone. Offer drinks and snacks. (15 minutes)

Start the general group meeting. (10 minutes)

Play the Group 3 video: Is God Still Good When Life Feels Bad?
The link is available at www.livingintheYES.com/chapter-3)

Break into groups of 3-6 for discussion. (30 minutes)

OPTION A: Give everyone a handout & pen. Discuss the questions together.

OPTION B: Also pass out paper blocks, Q&A, and supplies.

- Each group works through the handout together.
- The group literally “builds a wall” as they talk about life’s challenges.
- Then the group talks about “What does GOD say?”

Either read the questions & answers, in order, OR:
Explode the plastic bags, in order.

Gather together for general discussion & recap. (10 minutes)

Play the conclusion to the video. (3 minutes)

Pray for each other. (5 minutes)

Is God still good when life feels bad? YES! In those moments, GOD is not punishing us. He is walking with us through this fallen world.

We want to give people a chance to experience the Father’s compassion for their suffering.

If someone has heard, “God did this to punish you,” that is NOT New Testament theology. (See 2 Corinthians 5:17-21.) They will need extra compassion and comfort, and you might want to set aside ministry time afterwards for anyone who needs it.

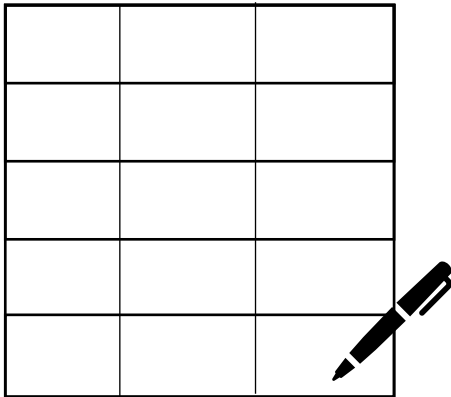
LIVING IN THE YES! CHAPTER 3 - ADVANCE PREP

OPTIONAL: WHAT BLOCKS ARE IN YOUR WALL?

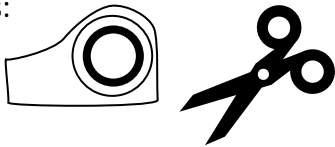
SET UP FOR THE BLOCKS ACTIVITY:

Print 1 BLOCK SHEET per PERSON.
Gather scissors, tape, markers, & candies for the GROUP.

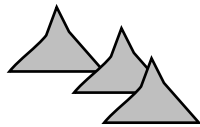
Each PERSON needs: a page & a marker.
(Markers work better than pens here.)



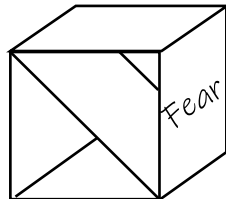
Each GROUP needs:
scissors & tape.
(Look for a dollar store.)



Bring Hersheys KISSES®
or other candies to
represent people facing
their wall.

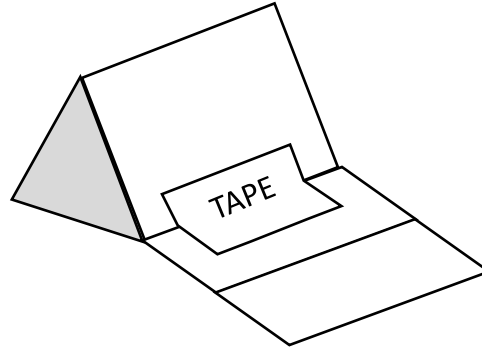


Print an extra sheet &
build a few sample
blocks.



DO IT:

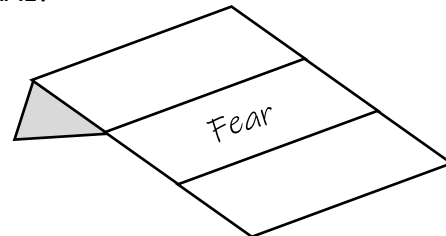
- Cut the paper into 3 strips.
- Fold at the marks.
- Tape as shown to make a triangle.



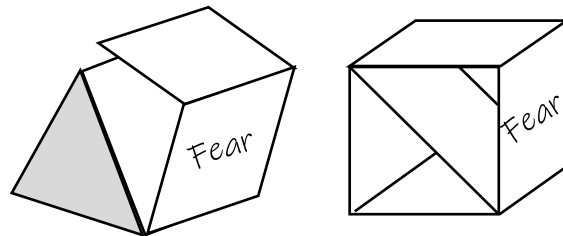
Now flip the paper over and write:
(A) What is something that is blocking YOU?

-or-

(B) What is something that blocks PEOPLE IN GENERAL?



- Tape the end to make a block.
- Stack the blocks to make a wall. Talk about it.





LIVING IN THE YES! CHAPTER 3 - ADVANCE PREP

OPTIONAL: WHAT DOES GOD SAY?

PRINT THE GROUP HANDOUT - What Does GOD say? on colored paper (1 set per GROUP)
Then choose ONE of the options below.

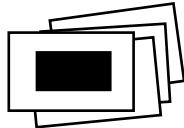
EASY

You will have 3 sheets of paper like this.
The QUESTION is in a black box at the top.
The plain boxes below are ANSWERS.

		←QUESTION (IN A BLACK BOX)
		←ANSWER
		←ANSWER
		←ANSWER

Cut the Q&A's apart. You will have 4 sets.
Stack each set- Q on top and A's beneath,
in numerical order.
Put each set together with a paper clip.

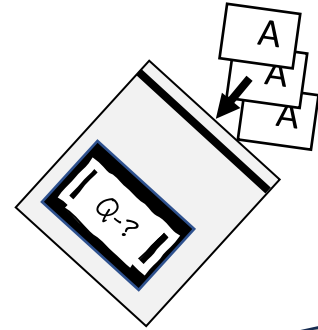
You will have 4 sets
of Q&A's per group.



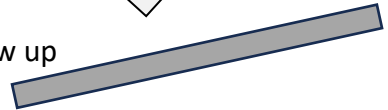
MORE COMPLICATED

Print, cut, and stack your Q&A sets.

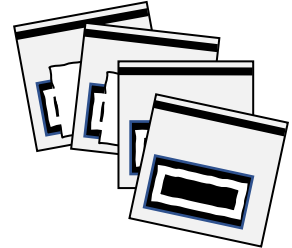
Instead of using
paper clips to
make 4 sets, use
plastic sandwich
bags. Tape the
QUESTION to the
outside. Put the
ANSWERS inside.



STRAWS help blow up
the bags.



You'll have 4 bags
per group.
The group will explode
these bags so the
answers rain down.



DO IT: WHAT DOES GOD SAY:

- Ask the first QUESTION.
- Take turns reading the ANSWER cards.
- If anyone wants to PASS and not read, for any reason, it's okay.
- Give people time to respond.
- Then read the next question, and so on.

DO IT: What does GOD SAY?

- Ask the first QUESTION.
- Keep the bag zipped. Use a straw to fill it with air. Then zip it shut again.
- Hold the bag up and POP IT with 2 hands.
- The answers (should) rain down.
- Take turns reading the ANSWER cards.
- If anyone wants to PASS and not read, for any reason, it's okay.
- Give people time to respond.
- Then read the next question, and so on.