



# Uncommon Uncommon Faith

#bnpuncommon

Week 2

2 of 4

August 13, 2017

**Bottom Line:** Growth is a process, not an event.

**Icebreaker:** If you know, share how much you weighed when you were born. Find out who is the tallest and the shortest in your group. What was the “old wives tale” you heard growing up about what would make you grow, or would stunt your growth?

**Key Verse:** *When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, “Assuredly, I say to you, I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel! Matthew 8:10 NKJV*  
*He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. And He marveled because of their unbelief. Mark 6:5-6 NKJV*

Only two times do the writers of the New Testament, the first-hand witnesses to the life of Jesus Christ, note that He was amazed. He was amazed at the profoundly powerful faith of one man, and amazed at the disappointing absence of faith in an entire town of people. The reason that the kind and power of faith was amazing to Jesus is because He came here to give us access to the powerful God of the universe. He wanted us to have a relationship of deep and lasting trust in God the Father. Everywhere Jesus went, it was all about trusting God, and growing a bigger, stronger faith. The spiritual growth Jesus desired was not about getting more knowledge. It was not about performing well and serving many hours in the church. Spiritual growth is irrevocably tied to faith and trust. Spiritual maturity is growing a great faith and trust in God.

What does it take to grow a person's faith? The kind of faith that is enough for us, truly equips us for life, and pleases Jesus involves implementing five tools to the best of our capacity. NewPointe centers on these: practical teaching, providential relationships, private disciplines, pivotal circumstances, and personal ministry. All of these are indispensable to a faith Jesus would call amazing. It's not about having a big church. It's about a group of individuals who have grown BIG and UNCOMMON faith, joining together for an uncommon impact in our world. It's all about that relationship with the Father based on complete trust.

## THINK IT OVER >>>

What impacted you most specifically from the weekend message?

How do you believe your faith amazes Jesus?

The last time you hit a big snag and obstacle, how faith-filled and trusting was your immediate response? Discuss.

What are the signs you see in a person's life who has great faith that tell you they are certain God is with them?

How does your trust level with God affect your other relationships?

Up to this point, which of the five tools has God used most strongly in your life to grow your faith? How and why? In which area is He working to grow you right now? Which one is your growing edge?

## LOOK IT OVER <<<

**PRACTICAL TEACHING:** “When we just hear the Word and don't apply it, we will become more judgmental.” Agree or disagree. Why?

**PROVIDENTIAL RELATIONSHIPS:** “Certain relationships are pivotal in our spiritual development.” Cite an example in your life or someone else's.

**PRIVATE DISCIPLINES:** “The things you do on your own to grow trust in God are your defining moments—they make Sunday mornings and moments with other believers impactful.” Discuss.

**PIVOTAL CIRCUMSTANCES:** “In pivotal moments, God gets our attention. Our faith will not remain the same.” Discuss. Illustrate from life.

**PERSONAL MINISTRY:** “Serving others stretches us and makes us look to God.” Discuss.

## NEXT STEPS

This week consider taking some next steps together as a group:

1. Whom does your group know who has had a pivotal circumstance recently where you could love them in specific ways, and help this be a growing moment for them?
2. Pray for next week's service, that the practical teaching will do it's work.

## EVALUATION/ACTION

Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

**Bottom Line:** Growth is a process, not an event.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

## PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

## DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at [newpointe.org/daily](http://newpointe.org/daily):

Day 1: Matthew 7:24-27

Day 2: Proverbs 13:20

Day 3: John 15:5

Day 4: Proverbs 16:9

Day 5: 2 Corinthians 5:18

***Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.***

*(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)*