

An abstract painting of a stormy sea. The foreground is dominated by dark, turbulent blue waves with white foam. In the middle ground, a small boat is visible, struggling against the waves. The background features a mix of warm colors like yellow, orange, and red, suggesting a sunset or sunrise, with a white, overcast sky. The overall mood is one of resilience and struggle.

LEADER GUIDE

WITHOUT WAVERING

**RESILIENT FAITH BUILT
ON THE PROMISES OF GOD**



LEADER GUIDE

WELCOME! Before you read any further, we want to say how thankful we are for you, the leader. Thank you for your willingness to dive into Scripture, brew the coffee, place the chairs, and set aside the time regularly to meet with other women.

Without Wavering is a video- and discussion-based Bible study from Alexandra Hoover. Our goal is for this leader guide to help you feel equipped to facilitate and guide your Bible study group gatherings in a way that fosters deep conversation and prayer for you and the women you're leading.

We want to encourage you to use this study however it works best for you and your group. If you want to follow this leader guide to the letter, do that! If you want to do your own thing, feel free! Our goal is to give you all the tools you might need, but we are certain God has ordained your time with your specific group in your specific setting.

We are grateful for you and praying for you as you lead this study.

Lifeway Women

WEEKLY GROUP MEETING: SUGGESTED SCHEDULE

7 Group Meetings • Meeting Length: 1 hour

SESSION ONE—Introduction: Distribute Bible study books, get to know one another, and watch the Session One video.

SESSION TWO—Watch the Session Two video and discuss the Session Two personal Bible study.

SESSION THREE—Watch the Session Three video and discuss the Session Three personal Bible study.

SESSION FOUR—Watch the Session Four video and discuss the Session Four personal Bible study.

SESSION FIVE—Watch the Session Five video and discuss the Session Five personal Bible study.

SESSION SIX—Watch the Session Six video and discuss the Session Six personal Bible study.

SESSION SEVEN—Watch the Session Seven video and discuss the Session Seven personal Bible study.



HOW TO STRUCTURE YOUR GROUP TIME

Each group session contains the following elements. We've included a suggested amount of time based on a 1-hour group meeting. Adjust as you need to for the time you have together!

GATHER (10 MINUTES) This is a time to greet and welcome everyone and to get them talking. In the first session, you're provided with some general icebreaker questions. In the subsequent sessions, you'll notice a list of questions to help participants review the previous week's personal study. Feel free to adapt, skip, or add questions based on the needs of your group.

WATCH (10 MINUTES) During this time, play the teaching video, encouraging the women to take notes on the Video Viewer Guide page for that specific session.

DISCUSS (30 MINUTES) You'll find a suggestion of questions for each week in this Leader Guide. Pick and choose the ones you want to discuss with your group. These questions are designed to help you facilitate conversation around the week's Bible study and personal reflection. As you go through your own study during the week, put a star by any questions or statements you might want to discuss with your group.

CLOSE (10 MINUTES) Brief closing activity ideas and/or prayer prompts have been provided. You can use this however you wish to enhance or close the session.

HERE ARE A FEW TIPS TO HELP YOU LEAD.

HOW TO WATCH YOUR VIDEOS. The videos for this study are available for streaming through the digital access code on the last page of your Bible study book. Look for the cardstock page labeled “**Here’s Your Video Access**” and follow the two steps that prompt you to enter your unique redemption code to gain your video streaming access.

If your group doesn’t have an adequate internet connection for video streaming, DVD sets are available for purchase at lifeway.com/withoutwaving.

Each video is intended to be viewed after completing the accompanying week of personal study.

GET THE WORD OUT. Be sure to advertise the study early and utilize all methods for getting the word out. Post it on your church’s website, send emails to potential attendees, and promote it on all forms of social media. It’s best to start advertising the study four to six weeks before it begins. The study is 7 sessions long, which means you will meet seven times (or eight times if you want to host a wrap-up celebration!). Visit lifeway.com/withoutwaving for free promotional materials to help get the word out about your study.

SCHEDULE. Be sure to make everyone aware of the schedule ahead of time and start promptly each week to honor everyone’s time. In your group time, you will watch the video together, discuss what you’ve learned through the personal study, and be encouraged to spend a good bit of time in prayer.

STAY IN TOUCH. Prepare a sign-up sheet with space for names, email addresses, and phone numbers. You may also include information like birthdays, social media handles, and favorite candy so that you can foster community among group members.

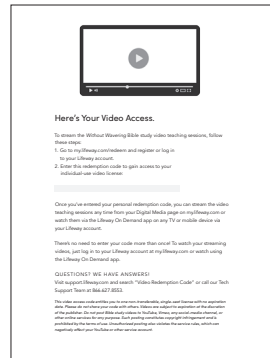
GET COZY. Make an effort to create a comfortable environment for group meetings. Arrange chairs in a circle to encourage conversation. If your group is large, you may want to watch the video together and then split into smaller groups for the discussion time. If you choose to do so, enlist discussion leaders for each group to keep the conversation moving and focused.

CHILDCARE. Be sure to check with participants to see if childcare is needed and organize leaders and space for the children in advance.

BIBLE STUDY BOOKS. Each participant will need a Bible study book. Make sure you leave plenty of time for all the books to be ordered and received between announcing and

starting your Bible study. Consider offering a scholarship or buy-one-give-one option for those who cannot afford a study book on their own.

EARLY PREP. We encourage you to read through the entire leader guide before the first session and evaluate how this will work best for your group. Highlight specific questions from the leader guide you want to make sure you cover during your group time. We recommend watching the video sessions prior to your meeting and taking note of anything you may want to highlight from the teaching. And be sure you stay on top of your own personal study between each meeting! We've left room in the leader guide for you to write down additional talking points and questions you want to pull in from the personal study.



PERSONAL STUDY. Between each meeting, there are four days of study and one day of reflection to complete in the Bible study book.

PRAYER. Most importantly, be sure to pray for the women who attend the study. And pray for yourself as you prepare to lead. Ask God to draw the women closer to Him as they learn more about growing a faith built on the promises and faithfulness of God.

EVALUATE. At the end of each group session, ask yourself: *What went well? What could be improved? Did you see women's lives transformed? Did your group grow closer to Christ and to one another?* Also, do a final evaluation at the close of the study.

CONNECT. Find ways to interact and stay engaged with each member of your group throughout the study. Make use of social media, email, text messages, and handwritten notes to encourage them. Continue these connections even after the study ends.

Next, we've provided a discussion guide for each session. Remember these are simply suggestions for how to use your time together. We want to empower you as you lead to do what is best for your group!

DISCUSSION GUIDE

SESSION ONE

Introduction: This Is for You

GATHER Welcome women to the *Without Wavering* Bible study and distribute Bible study books to each group member. Encourage discussion and get to know one another with the following questions:

Invite each woman to introduce herself, share basic get-to-know-you information, and answer this question: If you could pick one new skill to automatically be excellent at, what would you pick and why?

If you were to attempt to define faith in God, especially to someone who doesn't have a relationship with Him, how would you explain it (question 1, p. 10)?

What do you hope to gain from this Bible study and this group?

WATCH Play the video for Session One. Encourage participants to take notes or jot down questions on the Session One Video Viewer Guide (p. 10).

DISCUSS Use the questions found on page 10 to debrief the video teaching and introduce the key concepts for this study.

What is one word you would use to describe the current state of your relationship with God?

Ask someone to read aloud the “This Is for You” manifesto (p. 7). Which of these statements resonate with you as you begin this study?

What are some hindrances, distractions, or obstacles you might face in being able to complete the personal study each week?

If you’re a Bible study veteran, what tips would you offer on how to stay the course in our study?

What is one way you want to ask God to work in you through this study?

CLOSE Wrap up your group meeting with a time of prayer requests. In addition to any urgent needs, encourage each woman to think of a request that specifically relates to her faith journey. Lead the group in a closing prayer.

REMIND Encourage group members to complete their personal study before the next session.

SESSION TWO

The Key to Unwavering Faith

GATHER Welcome participants back to the study.

If you could go back in time to witness one event in history (you can't influence it in any way), what event would you choose?

What day of personal study had the most impact on you? Why?

What questions do you want to talk about with our group?

WATCH Play the video for Session Two. Encourage participants to take notes or jot down questions on the Session Two Video Viewer Guide (p. 34).

DISCUSS the video teaching and personal Bible study, using the following questions and prompts from page 34 as a guide.

How did what you heard on the video teaching clarify, reinforce, or give new insight into what you studied this session?

Pick an example of faith in God from Hebrews 11 that stood out to you and share your thoughts.

Invite a couple of group members to share the definitions of faith they wrote down on page 33.

In the video, Alexandra encouraged us that a big part of faith is admitting to God that we need Him and we trust Him. Why is this hard to do?

What are some lies we believe from the world that make us think surrender and neediness aren't OK?

Discuss your responses to the reflection questions on page 33:

What is one big takeaway or main idea you want to remember from this week of study?

What is one idea or thought you need to lay down that contradicts God's faithful love for you?

CLOSE your group time with prayer. Invite women to take turns praising God for His faithfulness to His promises and His people.

SESSION THREE

Faith in the Hard Places

GATHER Welcome participants back to the study.

Who would be on your “Mount Rushmore” of models of faith from Hebrews 11?

What day of personal study had the most impact on you? Why?

What questions do you want to talk about with our group?

WATCH Play the teaching video for Session Three. Encourage participants to take notes or jot down questions on the Session Three Video Viewer Guide (p. 58).

DISCUSS the video teaching and personal Bible study, using the following questions and prompts from page 58 as a guide.

How did what you heard on the video teaching clarify, reinforce, or give new insight into what you studied this session?

Alexandra reminded us in this session’s video teaching, “No matter the season, Christ is always King, and He is always good.” How does this truth make you feel today?

Looking back on a recent hard place you've been in, how did you see God working in you during that time? What evidence did you see of His faithfulness and goodness?

What is a lesson you learned that you need to hold onto for the next hard season?

Discuss your responses to the three reflection questions on page 57:

This week we learned that God strengthens us to endure, corrects us through discipline, pushes us toward holiness, and picks us back up time and time again. Which of these feels like how God wants to work in your life today? How do you need to respond to Him?

What is one big takeaway or main idea you want to remember from this week of study?

What is one idea or thought you need to lay down that contradicts God's faithful love for you?

CLOSE your group time in prayer. Make sure each woman who shared about a hard place she's in is prayed for during this time.

SESSION FOUR

The Harvest of Spiritual Disciplines

GATHER Welcome participants back to the study.

Are you motivated or demotivated by checklists? Discuss responses and what this reveals about ourselves.

What day of personal study had the most impact on you? Why?

What questions do you want to talk about with our group?

WATCH Play the teaching video for Session Four. Encourage participants to take notes or jot down questions on the Session Four Video Viewer Guide (p. 85).

DISCUSS the video teaching and personal Bible study, using the following questions and prompts from page 85 as a guide.

How did what you heard on the video teaching clarify, reinforce, or give new insight into what you studied this session?

Of the spiritual disciplines we considered this week—Bible study, prayer, worship, giving, and serving—which one do you sense the Spirit encouraging you to prioritize? What is one way you plan to do that this week?

In the video, Alexandra pointed out, “Spiritual rhythms aren’t about doing for God, but about being with God. They are spiritual deposits made into the banks of our souls.” What keeps you from investing in spiritual disciplines?

How can we encourage each other to make time for this good work?

Discuss your responses to the three reflection questions on page 84.

Flip back through your week of study and reflect on each day’s closing activity. Where are you now in your habits, and what growth would you like to see? In what areas and/or habits do you feel the Lord leading you to be sharpened? Who is someone you can partner with for accountability?

What is one big takeaway or main idea you want to remember from this week of study?

What is one idea or thought you need to lay down that contradicts God’s faithful love for you?

CLOSE your group time by practicing together the ACTS model for prayer—adoration, confession, thanksgiving, supplication. With each section of the prayer, allow enough time for women to pray aloud.

SESSION FIVE

Building Resilience Through Faithful Obedience

GATHER Welcome participants back to the study.

When you were little, what did you want to be when you grew up?
Do you do anything related to that now?

What day of personal study had the most impact on you? Why?

What questions do you want to talk about with our group?

WATCH Play the teaching video for Session Five. Encourage participants to take notes or jot down questions on the Session Five Video Viewer Guide (p. 109).

DISCUSS the video teaching and personal Bible study, using the following questions and prompts from page 109 as a guide.

How did what you heard on the video teaching clarify, reinforce, or give new insight into what you studied this session?

How were you encouraged by Abraham's and Sarah's relationships with God as you studied them this week? How were you challenged?

One theme of Scripture is the cost—the sacrifice—that comes with a resilient, unwavering faith. As Alexandra noted in the video, “Obedience wouldn’t be obedience without a cost.” What is God calling you to sacrifice to follow Him today? Time? A relationship? A “want”?

Discuss why sacrifice matters and why willingness is so hard.

Discuss your responses to the three reflection questions on page 108.

Ask volunteers to read Psalm 145:13 and 2 Corinthians 1:20. What is a truth that stands out to you as you read over these verses?

What is one big takeaway or main idea you want to remember from this week of study?

What is one idea or thought you need to lay down that contradicts God’s faithful love for you?

CLOSE your group time with a prayer of thanksgiving for the gospel. Pray over any requests mentioned, and ask God to continue to build faithfulness in you.

SESSION SIX

Empty Doubt to Empowered Faith

GATHER Welcome participants back to the study.

What is a modern invention you can't comprehend (for example, the internet, self-driving cars, and so forth)?

What day of personal study had the most impact on you? Why?

What questions do you want to talk about with our group?

WATCH Play the teaching video for Session Six. Encourage participants to take notes or jot down questions on the Session Six Video Viewer Guide (p. 133).

DISCUSS the video teaching and personal Bible study, using the following questions and prompts from page 133 as a guide.

How did what you heard on the video teaching clarify, reinforce, or give new insight into what you studied this session?

We considered several more examples of unwavering faith this week. The more you've examined examples of faithfulness to God in Scripture and considered His faithfulness to you, how has your relationship with Him been impacted?

In this week's video teaching, Alexandra asked, "What have you placed your hope in? What is your faith fueled by?" How do you answer these questions today?

Discuss your responses to the three reflection questions on page 132.

Whose story from this week's study revealed the most to you about your own relationship with God? What does a faith without wavering look like for you now as you reflect on these stories?

What is one big takeaway or main idea you want to remember from this week of study?

What is one idea or thought you need to lay down that contradicts God's faithful love for you?

CLOSE your group meeting with a time of silent prayer. Encourage group members to pray prayers of confession, focusing on ways we try to live out of our own power rather than the Lord's. Wrap up the prayer time by asking the Spirit to move in power in and through your group members this week.

SESSION SEVEN

Living with Unwavering Faith

GATHER Welcome participants back to the study.

Spend some time reflecting on the journey you've taken together over the past seven weeks. Share ways you've been encouraged and challenged in your faith.

What day of personal study had the most impact on you? Why?

What questions do you want to talk about with our group?

WATCH Play the teaching video for Session Seven. Encourage participants to take notes or jot down questions on the Session Seven Video Viewer Guide (p. 154).

DISCUSS the video teaching and personal Bible study, using the following questions and prompts from page 154 as a guide.

How did what you heard on the video teaching clarify, reinforce, or give new insight into what you studied this session?

One of the important truths in this last session of study is the reminder that faith is a gift from God that we use to glorify Him and help grow His kingdom. Who needs to see your faith in action today? Who needs to know the good and faithful God you serve? How can your group hold one another accountable?

Toward the end of this session's teaching, Alexandra asked, "What makes for a faith that's without wavering?" How would you answer that question today, at the end of your study?

Discuss your responses to the three reflection questions on page 153.

How do you feel as you reach the end of this study? What have you learned about the character of God? What do you understand about faith that you didn't before this study? Whom do you need to tell about the hope you have in Jesus?

What is one big takeaway or main idea you want to remember from this week of study?

What is one idea or thought you need to lay down that contradicts God's faithful love for you?

CLOSE your group time with a prayer of adoration to God. Begin your prayer with these words from Paul: "Now to him who is able to do above and beyond all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us—to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever" (Eph. 3:20-21, CSB).

FINISHING WELL

NEXT STEPS Even after the study concludes, follow up and challenge women to stay involved through another Bible study, church opportunity, or anything that will continue their spiritual growth and friendships. Provide several options of ministry opportunities the members can participate in individually or as a group to apply what they have learned through this study.



What's Next?

If you enjoyed this study, check out *As for Me* by Adrienne Camp.

lifeway.com/asforme



VIDEO ACCESS STUDY

INTRODUCING BIBLE STUDIES *with* VIDEO ACCESS INCLUDED!

As trends in media consumption change from DVDs to streaming video, Lifeway made the decision to invest in technology that would allow for Bible studies to be accessed through mobile devices and smart TVs in addition to our website.

The concept of a Bible study book with video access allows us to use the technology to give all participants easier access to teaching videos. This will alleviate a concern we have heard from many group leaders of members who stop coming to their group after they miss a week of study.

How will customers access the videos that come with their Bible study book with video access?

There is a unique access code printed in each Bible study book. They will access their video content at my.lifeway.com or through the Lifeway On Demand app.

How long will they have access to the videos that come with their Bible study book?

There is no expiration date on the video access that comes with their Bible study book. They'll be able to access it as long as it is available through our Lifeway On Demand video apps.

What are the benefits of video access being included in each Bible study book?

- This provides more flexibility for group meeting time. Groups now have the option to have group members watch video sessions outside of group meetings to allow more time for discussion.
- If a group member misses a weekly group meeting due to sickness or travel, she will be able to access the video content on her own and continue in her study.
- Group members can rewatch video sessions that were particularly impactful on their own time.

- This simplifies what a group leader needs to facilitate Bible study. You'll now get everything you need with just the Bible study book.
- Our goal is to provide an affordable option for both individuals and churches who are looking for Bible study options.

What do churches and individuals need to lead a group?

Each group member will need a Bible study book, which will include video access. There is also a DVD option for groups who want a non-streaming viewing option. In addition, select studies provide a Video Streaming - Group option for groups who choose not to use the Bible study books. For the best experience, we recommend each group member having a Bible study book.

When do group leaders need a DVD Set?

Because the Bible study book includes video streaming access, the purchase of the DVD set is optional (not essential) for group leaders. This option is for groups who may not have reliable streaming internet access.