



Show me your way of life...and I'll show you what you believe. This week, we reflect on our "way of life in Christ" (1 Cor 4:17). We will tell of our shared faith story as we welcome 4 new shepherds to lead this flock under Jesus Christ, the Chief Shepherd.

These questions are intended to deepen your experience of the message. Use them for your personal or family study time, or with an open Bible as you share the good news with your neighbor.

Group Ice-Breaker:

(1) What are some stories (in history or in your life) of courageous faith?

(2) What do you mean when you jokingly say "that is the story of my life"?

REFLECT ON THE TEXT. Read **1 Cor 4:15-17**. What does Paul mean that he became their "father"? What does it mean to "imitate" your father? Read different versions of v.17. What is Paul saying about his way of life and how it connects to his teaching? What is Paul saying about the "way of life" of a whole church?

REFLECT ON THE KOUFAX STORY. Read **Leviticus 23:27-29**. What makes the story of Sandy Koufax refusing to pitch on Yom Kippur so powerful or unusual? What is the "story" he lived out of in order for him to do that?

REFLECT ON YOUR STORY. Suppose you never spoke. Is the answer to what you do, how you think, and how you live your life "because I am a Christian?" If not, what would be different? What is the story that explains your life?

"THE FAITH" IN ACTS. Read **Acts 6:7; 14:22; 16:5**. Since these stories are recorded before people had New Testaments, what is "the faith" here? How is this related to a "way of life"?

"THE FAITH" IN PAUL. Read **1 Cor 16:13; 2 Cor 13:5; Gal 1:23; Eph 4:13; Phil 1:25; Col 1:23; Col 2:7**. What does Paul say about "the faith"? Read **Eph 4:22-23 & Phil 1:27**. How does Paul explicitly link your way or manner of life with "the faith"?

REFLECT ON YOUR STORY. Given all of this, what is your "faith story"?

REFLECT ON YOUR ELDERS. Read **Hebrews 13:17**. How is this similar to **1 Cor 4:15-17**? Name each elder and list what you hope to imitate about their faith.