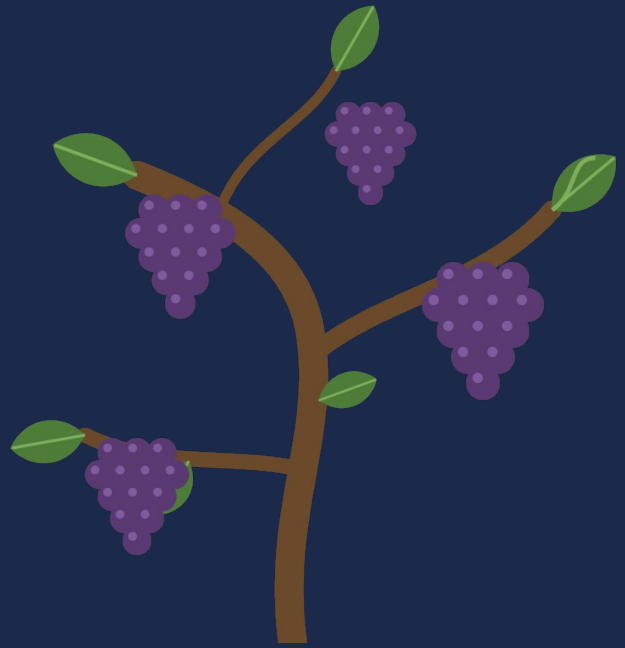
IFC ABIDJAN | AREA FELLOWSHIP EDIFICATION

Transformed to Bear Much Fruit

Bearing the fruit of the Spirit and its impact on my cell group

Focus: Faithfulness



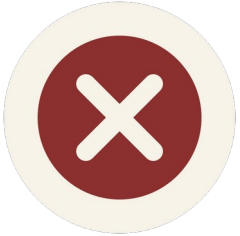
Co-presented by Mr. and Mrs. Anye

Faithful or Flaky?

1. You text "I'm on my way"... while still in the shower
2. Cell meeting is at 6 pm. You arrive at 6 pm, with the snacks you promised
3. You borrowed a brother's plastic chairs and returned them... two years later
4. "I'll pray for you"... and you pray with them right there
5. Two blue ticks on the prayer request. Three days ago. No reply



FAITHFUL!



FLAKY!

Abide in the Vine, Bear Much Fruit



No vine, no wine!

"I am the vine, ye are the branches: He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing."
John 15:5

"Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples." **John 15:8**

"...that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain." **John 15:16**

Two Harvests

Works of the flesh

Galatians 5:19-21

Adultery, hatred, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, divisions, envy, drunkenness, and the like

What grows when we are disconnected

Fruit of the Spirit

Galatians 5:22-23

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Longsuffering
- Gentleness
- Goodness
- **Faithfulness**
- Meekness
- Temperance

One fruit, nine flavours

What Is Faithfulness?



pistis

Greek, Galatians 5:22

Trustworthy | Reliable | Loyal | Dependable

Being the same person, keeping the same commitments, whether people are watching or not, whether it is convenient or not.

"...a faithful man who can find?" **Proverbs 20:6**

It Starts With a Faithful God



"His compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness."

Lamentations 3:22-23



"If we believe not, yet he abideth faithful: he cannot deny himself."

2 Timothy 2:13



"...the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy... to a thousand generations."

Deuteronomy 7:9

The branch carries the character of the Vine.

Who Am I?

1. I said no to my master's wife, and went to prison for doing the right thing.
2. I told my mother-in-law, "Whither thou goest, I will go."
3. My enemies found no fault in my work, so they attacked my prayer life.
4. Paul was in chains and others left him, but I searched Rome until I found him.
5. I kept building a huge boat for years before a drop of rain fell.



Shout the name!

Faithful in Every Season

1

Joseph

Genesis 39:9

Faithful in temptation

2

Ruth

Ruth 1:16

Faithful in loyalty

3

Daniel

Daniel 6:4

Faithful in excellence

4

Onesiphorus

2 Timothy 1:16-17

Faithful in friendship

5

Noah

Genesis 6:22

Faithful in obedience

Not perfect, but consistent. Faithfulness travels with you to every season.

What Faithfulness Looks Like



Faithfulness IS…

1. Keeping your word, even when it costs — Psalm 15:4
2. Faithful in the small things — Luke 16:10
3. Loyal in covenant: God, spouse, family, church — Malachi 2:14
4. Keeping confidences — Proverbs 11:13
5. Enduring to the end — Revelation 2:10

What Faithfulness Is NOT

Perfection

The righteous fall and rise again

Prov 24:16

Just attendance

Present in body, absent in heart

Isaiah 29:13

Seasonal fire

On fire in January, gone by March

Matt 13:20-21

Blind loyalty to wrong

Faithful to God first

Acts 5:29

Eye-service

Working only when watched

Col 3:22-23

Mere busyness

Martha busy, Mary faithful

Luke 10:41-42

Impact on Our Cell Group



Turn and talk: "Our cell would be stronger if I was more faithful in..."

Trust grows

Confidences kept

Prov 11:13

Community deepens

They continued stedfastly

Acts 2:42

No one is lost

If one falls, another lifts

Eccl 4:10

Leaders not burnt out

Everyone carries a part

Exodus 18

Neighbours see Christ

A light in our Area

Matt 5:16

Fruit that remains

Lasting, not seasonal

John 15:16

Living Faithfully: Me



As an individual

1	Abide daily in the Word and prayer	John 15:4, 7
2	Keep small promises: yes means yes	Matt 5:37
3	Faithful with time, money and gifts	Matt 25:21
4	Guard your covenants: body, eyes, phone, heart	Heb 13:4
5	Be the most reliable person at work	Col 3:23
6	When you fail, return quickly	1 John 1:9

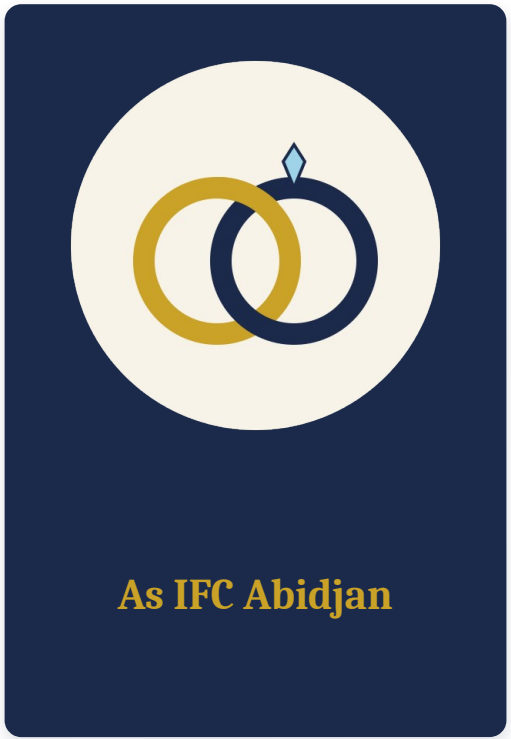
Living Faithfully: Our Area Fellowship



As a cell group

1	Show up consistently and on time; if absent, inform	Heb 10:25
2	"Onesiphorus ministry": miss two meetings, get a call or visit	2 Tim 1:16
3	Pair up as prayer partners, and pray during the week	James 5:16
4	What is shared in cell stays in cell, with love and wisdom	Prov 11:13
5	Rotate roles and honour your turn	1 Pet 4:10

Living Faithfully: IFC Church



1. Faithful serving: on the roster? Find your replacement — Luke 16:10
2. Faithful stewardship: integrity and transparency — 1 Cor 4:2
3. Faithful follow-up: every first-timer within 48 hours — Matt 18:12
4. Faithful in unity: many nations, one family — Eph 4:3
5. Faithful in witness: seek the good of our city — Jer 29:7

The 30-Day Faithfulness Challenge

1

Write

ONE specific area where you will be faithful for 30 days

2

Share

Tell one accountability partner today

3

Report

In 30 days at cell: faithful or flaky?

Example: *"I will read one chapter of the Bible every morning before my phone."*

MEMORY VERSE



"Moreover it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful."

1 Corinthians 4:2

"Well done, thou good and faithful servant."
Matthew 25:21 | Not well talked. Not well planned. Well DONE.

Let us pray