

What is this TXT Fondue program about?

With this program, we want to provide you with compelling evidence that you may be a child of God the Father through the faith in the risen King Jesus. This certainty is based on facts from the past and presents. These need to be converted to steps for the future, which you take in blind trust. This blind faith secures your relationship with the invisible King Jesus. Especially men, who like to arrange things and wish to put them in a logical place, will be very happy with this program.

How is a TXT Fondue played?

Two teams take turns in asking each other questions. There usually are 12 questions for each team. The team that has question 1a begins with asking. After the question has been asked and in some cases a passage from the Scriptures has been read, the other team has one minute to discuss their answer. Then they give their final answer and the team that asked the question decides whether the answer is correct. Keep in mind that if your team demands strict answers, the other team will do the same.

Not the answer but the process

With a TXT Fondue, it's not about the answer, but all about the process. Questions will lead to new questions, which is good, but keep these thoughts until after the TXT Fondue, so that the program may continue fluently and dynamically. That is important, because a TXT Fondue is actually a sermon that is divided into chunks. It is apostles' teaching (Acts 2:42), so just like any sermon it has a structure that builds up to an application. Those who wish to go in-depth can do so afterwards.

Referee

Like the referee ensures that the rules of play are respected, the elder in a house feast supervises that all that is said remains Biblical (1 Timothy 4:16). There are just two rules: if someone says something unbiblical, the elder takes corrective action, like a referee in football issues a yellow card. In case of sin, he intervenes, comparable to a red card.

Feedback

Have you got a suggestion? Did you discover an error in a TXT Fondue program? Let us know through HuisfeestNetwork.org! Questions regarding the contents can be discussed with the House Feast Network at facebook.com/HouseFeastNetwork.

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What is the House Feast Network?

Those who are in the house feasts intend to reach all people in their own network who have not yet been reached with the gospel.

Networking

Of course you are curious to see how other house feasts do things. You wish to pay each other visits, help each other, and in any case you celebrate a large feast together, three times a year. To facilitate this, we have set up a House Feast Network group on Facebook: facebook.com/HouseFeastNetwork. Elders can exchange their experiences at facebook.com/groups/Oudsten.

Share impressions

House feasts support one another by continually sharing photos in "The House Feast Network". House feasts unite because of this. We prefer that the ambience pictures you share do not intrude people's privacy.

What is the Learnhouse?

A collection of 84 TXT Fondue programs together form a complete training to spiritual maturity. It is composed of 7 fundaments, with 12 programs per fundaments. The program you now hold is part of the first fundament: conversion.

We recommend you to read the books of Mark and Galatians while you take the 12 lessons in this fundament.

Previous program:

1.04 Pesach Seder

This program:

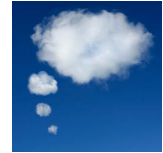
1.05 Faith

Next program:

1.06 Plan

For an overview of all programs, see the [Learnhouse](#).

	1. Conversion					
	2. Baptism					
	3. Holy Spirit					
	4. Evangelization and deacony					
	5. Sanctification					
	6. Future					
	7. Houses					
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1a. The Bible speaks of two types of faith. One type comes from within oneself, the other from the Holy Spirit. What are they called?

(answer)

1. (Blind) Faith
2. The Gift of Faith

(comment) *The Gift of Faith means that you put faith to practice by doing the impossible.*

2a. Does everyone who believes also have the Gift of Faith? Please explain.

(answer) No, the Gift of Faith is scarce.

(comment) *1 Corinthians 12:8–10 makes it clear that the Holy Spirit decides who gets which gift, by writing it down as: "To one, there is given this gift; to another that gift, and yet others receive even another gift." This is why people of great faith, like Hudson Taylor, are uncommon.*

3a. What does the Bible say about doubt?

(answer) Doubt is the opposite of faith. Who doubts, cannot receive anything.

(comment) *James 1:6–8 says: "But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Such a person is double-minded and unstable in all they do."*

4a. Can people believe in King Jesus after they have seen Him? Please explain.

(answer) No, they can't, because in that case they have seen, and in that case it is no longer about "the evidence of things *not* seen."

5a. You often hear people say: "I have to see it to believe it." What is wrong with that remark?

(answer) You can no longer believe after having seen.

(comment) *The Merriam-Webster dictionary describes "realism" as a "concern for fact or reality and rejection of the impractical and visionary." So the remark "I have to see it to believe it" is typical for a realist.*

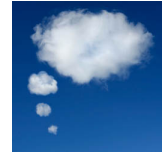
6a. King Jesus had twelve disciples. One of His disciples, Thomas, could not even believe blindly for three days. What shows that he couldn't?

(answer) King Jesus was crucified and rose again after three days, but Thomas could not "blindly" believe this, despite having seen the miracles King Jesus has done for three years.

7a. Surrounding the death and resurrection of King Jesus, there are many facts that meet at least one of the two requirements of the court. Name three.

(answer) Possible answers include:

- It is recorded in history that King Jesus was indeed convicted by Pontius Pilate.
- Many people have witnessed the crucifixion and death of King Jesus.
- King Jesus was declared dead by a Roman soldier; He wasn't faking His death.
- The same moment King Jesus died, there were saints who rose from the death, and then lived on (Matthew 27:52–53).
- Elders and chief priests bribed the guarding soldiers, so they would tell a lie.
- The burial-sheets in which King Jesus was buried, were still in the grave.
- King Jesus has identified Himself to His friends.
- King Jesus has eaten bread and fish with His followers at Lake Tiberias.
- Thomas has seen with his own eyes and has felt with his own hands, that King Jesus was alive.



8a. Chapter 11 of the letter to the Hebrews first provides us with the definition of faith, and then sums up a long list of heroes in faith. This is why this chapter is also called the "Gallery of Heroes of Faith". How can Hebrews 11 help you, so you can also autonomously believe in King Jesus, the risen Messiah?

(answer) In this Gallery of Heroes of Faith, you gather facts from the past, that help you to underpin your faith.

9a. An adopted child that is looking for his or her biological parents, often has many questions. The most important question to the mother is: "Are you my real mother?" And the most important question to the father is: "Why did you chose to have me?" Which two central life questions are behind these two questions?

(answer) You want to have certainty about who you are (where you come from), and what you live for.

(comment) *With a certainty about your identity and origin, you have a greater certainty about your future.*



10a. (Please read the bold text of this question aloud.)

The Samaritan woman did not know how to worship. Her question came down to: "You Jews know where and why you should worship. But what about us Samaritans?" Someone from the team asking the question will explain what King Jesus meant by worshipping in spirit and truth, without being allowed to name the words themselves. The other team will try and guess these "forbidden words".

(answer) The other team must name both points:

1. "Filling" (= Holy Spirit).
2. "Conversion" and "baptism" (= truth).

(comment) *Acts 2:38 says: "Peter replied, 'Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'"*

11a. What instantly makes your faith useless?

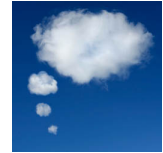
(answer) Faith without deeds is dead.

(comment) *James 2:17,26 says: "In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead. (...) As the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without deeds is dead."*

12a. Baptism is an act of faith. It is the clearest way through which you can show your world: "I believe". This is why we encourage you to do it. Which two certainties do you have, right after you are baptized?

(answer)

1. You know you are a child of God the Father. You can say: "I have been crucified with Christ, and have resurrected into a new life, and I may call myself a believer."
2. You are wet.



1b. John 2:1–10 says:

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine."

"Woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied. "My hour has not yet come."

His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet."

They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now."

Who have put faith to practice here? Give three answers.

(answer) Maria, King Jesus, and the servants.

(comment) Maria believed King Jesus could solve the shortage of wine. King Jesus performed an act of faith. The servants obediently carried out their task.



2b. (Please read the bold text of this question aloud.)

Someone from the team asking the question will describe which two things cause your faith to evaporate right away, without naming these two words. The other team will try and guess these "forbidden words".

(answer) "Doubt" and "realism" (or: "doubters" and "realists")

(comment) Suppose you were in a laboratory, and you have managed to collect a little bit of pure faith in a test-tube. Then this faith in the test-tube would immediately evaporate if it was exposed to the radiation of realism or doubt.



3b. (Please read the bold text of this question aloud.)

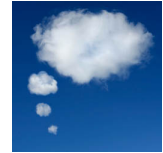
We just talked about the "Gift of Faith". Now we will continue with the topic of "blind faith". Hebrews 11:1 (NKJV) gives us the definition: "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen."

1 Corinthians 13:13 says: "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." Of these three words, "faith" is about the past, "hope" is about to the future, and "love" is about the here and now. Someone from the team asking the question will lip read what these three words offer with regard to the past, present and future. The other team will try and guess this word.

(answer) Certainty.

4b. Can people believe in King Jesus in the kingdom of 1000 years? Please explain.

(answer) No, nobody believes in the kingdom of 1000 years, because King Jesus is there and everyone can see Him.



5b. John 20:29 says: "Then Jesus told him, 'Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'" Here, King Jesus says that the people who have not seen Him have an advantage over those who have. What is the advantage of not having seen King Jesus?

(answer) You are saved by faith. They who have not seen, must have faith.

(comment) *Ephesians 2:8 says: "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God." Abraham also had this "blind" faith: he also hasn't seen, but his faith was pure.*

6b. One of the most important facts for which you need to have faith, is that King Jesus has risen from the dead.

Which two requirements does, for example, a court of law have, before something can be considered a fact?

(answer) The other team must name both of these:

1. There are two or more witnesses.
2. There is pleadable documentary evidence.

7b. There are people who say: "Faith is imaginary." What is wrong about that statement?

(answer) It has nothing to do with imagination. They are historical facts.

(comment) *Karl Marx, the founder of modern communism, rejected all forms of faith and called it "opium of the people" and "a projection of wishes".*

8b. Throughout his ministry, the apostle Paul has often testified in dangerous conditions. He was of Jewish descent and on his way to Damascus, he has personally seen King Jesus. This is why for him, many Biblical truths were absolutely certain. How did he use these experience to be a witness for King Jesus?

(answer) By calling on people to convert, based on many certainties of faith from the past, which he summed up to convince them.

(comment) *You need a greater or lesser degree of facts, that give you the certainty to blindly take the final step, the step of faith. It was not just Paul who described in detail what had happened in the past; we for example also see Peter and Stephen do this. They summed up history so extensively, to allow the faith to grow with their audience.*

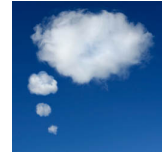
9b. When King Jesus was traveling through Samaria and rested at the well of the town of Sychar, a woman came to draw water. He asked her for some water, which resulted in a conversation about living water and about worship. That is uncommon, because Jews never associated with Samaritans. Then the following happens in John 4:16–26:

Jesus told her, "Go, call your husband and come back."

"I have no husband," she replied.

Jesus said to her, "You are right when you say you have no husband. The fact is, you have had five husbands, and the man you now have is not your husband. What you have just said is quite true."

"Sir," the woman said, "I can see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you Jews claim that the place where we must worship is in Jerusalem." [continues on the next page]



[9b. continued] **“Woman,” Jesus replied, “believe me, a time is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews. Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshipers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshipers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshipers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.”**

The woman said, “I know that Messiah” (called Christ) “is coming. When he comes, he will explain everything to us.”

Then Jesus declared, “I, the one speaking to you—I am he.”

The Samaritan woman could believe that King Jesus was Messiah. Based on what?
(answer) He gave her the facts about the way she lived.

10b. Picture this: you go out for dinner at a Japanese restaurant. You receive the menu, and to your surprise it has only two options to choose from: “Have faith” and “No faith”. When you order “Have faith”, you will just have to trust the chef makes you something good. What can you expect to get if you order “No faith”?

(answer) Directions to the nearest McDonald’s.

11b. The Pharisees believed based on lawfulness. If I hold church rules, then am I automatically also a believer? Please explain.

(answer) No, “the evidence of things not seen” has nothing to do with rules, but it has everything to do with living in that certainty.

(comment) Faithfully living according to those rules can even serve as a camouflage to hide one’s disbelief. But going to church does not make you a believer, anymore than standing in a garage makes you a car.

12b. If a tough kid wants to walk on a frozen pond, he first checks if the ice can hold him. He listens closely for any creaking under his feet. After that, the only certainty he has about the strength of the ice, is the knowledge that it has frozen hard for several days in a row. He dares to take the step, and carefully walks over the ice.

We are like that, when we come to faith. We know what God the Father has done in the past, and we also know what the living King Jesus has done for others. Now it comes down to blind faith, to taking steps you take out of certainty. Name two out of three factors that determine how long it takes to come to faith.

(answer) The other team has to name two of the following three points:

1. The conviction that the Holy Spirit places in you.
2. Your own convictions/insight.
3. Witnesses around you.

(comment) The Ethiopian eunuch was convinced in one minute. After three years, Thomas still did not have enough faith for three days. So it depends on the person.