

## **NEW YOU**

### *New Faith*

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. (ESV)

#### **1. Define your goal**

Matthew 6:33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. (ESV)

Matthew 5:6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. (ESV)

#### **2. Identify your excuses**

Luke 8:42-48 As Jesus went with him, he was surrounded by the crowds. <sup>43</sup> A woman in the crowd had suffered for twelve years with constant bleeding, and she could find no cure. <sup>44</sup> Coming up behind Jesus, she touched the fringe of his robe. Immediately, the bleeding stopped. <sup>45</sup> "Who touched me?" Jesus asked. Everyone denied it, and Peter said, "Master, this whole crowd is pressing up against you." <sup>46</sup> But Jesus said, "Someone deliberately touched me, for I felt healing power go out from me." <sup>47</sup> When the woman realized that she could not stay hidden, she began to tremble and fell to her knees in front of him. The whole crowd heard her explain why she had touched him and that she had been immediately healed. <sup>48</sup> "Daughter," he said to her, "your faith has made you well. Go in peace." (NLT)

#### **3. Never give up**

Psalms 31:24 Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord! (ESV)

Romans 12:12 Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. (ESV)

### **Community Group Questions:**

1. Why can't our faith be borrowed from someone else?
2. Why is it important that we seek God Himself more than we seek something from God? What are some ways we can seek God more effectively in our lives?
3. How do our excuses create obstacles in our lives that we have to fight through? What excuses have you battled with in your life? How have you overcome them?
4. In Psalm 31:24 the Bible says we should "take courage," and in Romans 12:12 it says we should be "constant in prayer." What are some practical ways we can do this?