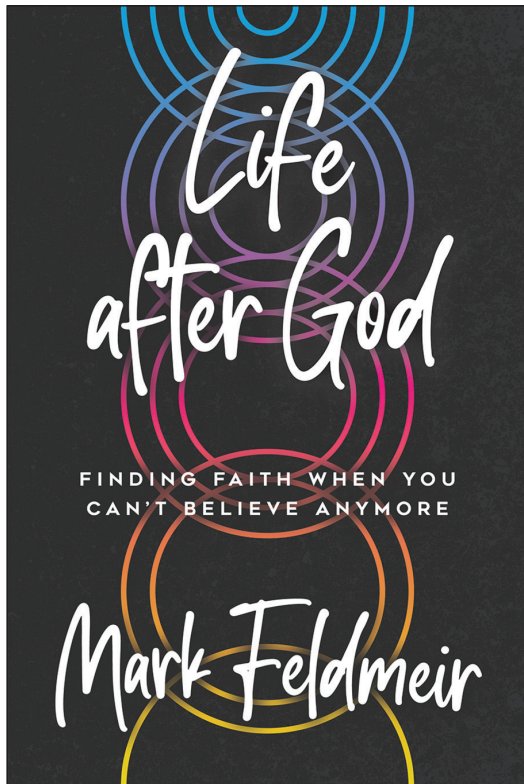


# Book Club Questions for Mark Feldmeir's *Life after God*



How would you describe “the God you no longer believe in”?

Do you find yourself challenged by questions of theodicy, or why an all-loving and all-powerful God does not stop bad things from happening? Do you consider this a problem that must be solved?

What is the difference between a God who works through relational power and one who works through unilateral power? Do you agree with the author’s claim that God internalizes or feels what we feel in such a way that our experience influences God’s experience?

If God’s intention and aim for the whole world is *shalom*, what would that look like in your own life? Is it a far-off, ultimate hope, or something you could experience every day? What is our role in helping God bring about *shalom*?

Have you ever heard God spoken of as the Unmoved Mover or the Divine Watchmaker, powerful but unchanging? How do you describe what is changing about God and what is unchanging?

Does the idea of God being in everyone, and everyone and everything being part of God make God seem more awe-inspiring or less to you? Does it change the way you think of God?

Similarly, do you think science (or generally, knowing why certain things happen) makes God seem less mysterious or powerful? Is mystery inherent to God’s wonder and glory?

What do Jesus’ life and teachings tell you about the false duality between the physical and the spiritual? What is the effect on our faith if we persistently spiritualize the promises of physical healing Jesus talks about?

Does the image of a lobster continually outgrowing its exoskeleton, doing the hard and vulnerable work of removing the old shell and growing a new one, resonate with your spiritual journey? How so?

Is it hard for you to think about what might come after this life? How might the vision of “the age to come”—an age marked by *shalom* and everything God dreams for the world—change the way you think about God and life itself?

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