

# CONVERSATION STARTERS

## SOUTHRIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

April 21, 2024 | Knowing God By Name

### EAT TOGETHER | *Showing up regularly to share life and build relationships*

1. What was one highlight from your past week? What was one challenge?
2. Being “afraid of the dark” is a common experience. Share an “afraid of the dark” story with your group.

### PRAY TOGETHER | *Joining in on conversations of life and faith*

1. What stood out to you in [this week's service](#)? Was there something that made you pause and contemplate? Feel free to watch the [message recap](#) to review the big ideas of the message.
2. Read [Exodus 13:20-22](#). Imagine finding yourself in a strange wilderness after being rescued from slavery and now lost in the unknown with some faint hope of a better life in a “promised land.” How might you have reacted to the appearance of a “pillar of fire” at night?
3. Jews for thousands of years have celebrated and re-enacted the *Festival of Shelters*. What did we learn about the purpose of re-enacting the *Festival of Shelters*? What are some key features of the festival?
4. Read [John 8:12](#). Jesus declares himself to be the light of the world during the *Festival of Shelters*. What might have made this a shocking statement to Jesus's original audience? What practical application can you see in this statement for your life?

### LOVE TOGETHER | *Being real to care and make a difference*

1. What other “lights” do you tend look to or follow for guidance in your life? How could you look to and grow in following the Light who is Jesus?
2. What “light” would you like God to shine on your situation these days? Consider prayerfully and imaginatively putting yourself into the story of Jesus's life, teaching, death and resurrection, and allow him to ease your fear about what is uncertain and concerning in your life right now.
3. Who in your life can you share your concerns with and invite them to help you see a clearer path forward?
4. How could you commemorate times when God came through for you during a very stressful and confusing time?