



**Undaunted.**  
The early life of  
Josh McDowell.

**Josh McDowell's** early life was a story of pain, abuse, and denial -- living in the midst of circumstances no child should have to suffer. But, it's also a story of **hope, forgiveness, and abundant grace.**

“YOU SHALL WORSHIP NO OTHER GOD BUT THE LORD.  
**for He is a God who is passionate  
about His relationship with you!”**

EXODUS 34:14, NLT

## STUDY GUIDE

- No matter our background, we have all had moments when we asked questions like:
  - Is God really there?*
  - Does God actually care about me?*
  - Does my life really make that much difference?*

Do you believe God exists? Why?  
If someone asked you to explain why you do or don't believe in God, what would you say?
- After the corn bin incident, Josh says, “*I started slamming the door on my father ... and I slammed the door on God.*”  
  
How was Josh's perception of God (as a heavenly Father) affected by his earthly father? Is it easy or difficult for you to picture God as a good Father? Why or why not?
- What did the Christian student reply with after Josh asked her, “*What changed your lives?*” How would you respond if asked that question?  
How did she challenge him when he said he was sick and tired of religion?
- At university, the Christian students and teachers challenged Josh about Jesus and the Bible. What was their two-fold challenge to him?
- Jesus is history's most familiar figure. When did you first hear about Jesus? How was he presented to you?
- After extensive study abroad, Josh concluded that the New Testament: 1) was written accurately and 2) what was written was true. What did he mean when he said: “*I had not yet concluded that what Jesus said was true! I had only concluded that it was true that he said it*”?
- How did Exodus 34:14, NLT change Josh's life? Do you believe this verse applies to you too?
- What role did forgiveness play in Josh's story? How has it played a part in your own life?
- Josh says that “*God is greater than any problem in your life but do not go it alone.*” What does he mean?
- What is one way you want to use your hurts to comfort someone else? What kind of impact on the world do you want to make before your time is up?

**Josh McDowell would become one of the world's most well-known evangelists.**

BUT HIS STORY BEGINS AS A YOUNG BOY ON A FARM...

**one who didn't believe in God.**

## GROWTH CHALLENGE:

Before this week out out, spend an hour with someone who has walked with Jesus a little while longer than you have.

Consider asking them: “*What was the best piece of advice you have ever received? What is one piece of advice from you that will help me understand God's love better?*”