

## LifeGroup Discussion Questions

Various

May 31, 2020

### **Overview:**

Imagine for a moment that someone discovered the cure for cancer. Not just a cure for a specific type of cancer but for all forms of cancer. This person was just working in their lab one day when everything came together. The cure for a disease that has impacted every continent and people group on the planet. They look at the cure and think, "Wow! This could change mindboggling amount of lives." Then they file away the cure and their notes never to be looked at again.

This would be unthinkable for many of us who have been impacted by this terrible disease. This is actually a very personal topic for me since my dad passed away from cancer. If someone had the cure for this deadly disease, why wouldn't they want to share it? Why would anyone keep a life giving cure to a deadly disease to themselves?

In the context of the cure for cancer it is ridiculous for someone not to share it with the world. But for many Christians we never consider sharing the most important cure for the disease of sin. We have discovered this cure by believing in Jesus as Lord and accepting Him as your Savior. Doing this takes away the penalty for the disease of sin. This cure far outweighs any cure for physical diseases. The Good News of the Gospel has an eternal impact, not just for this temporary life on earth.

Why do a lot of believers choose to keep this cure to themselves? One reason is fear. They don't know how the other person will react so they decide to not share at all rather than get a negative reaction. Another reason is a lack of understanding of the Gospel. They are worried the person will ask them a question they don't know the answer to. Although there is validity to this reason it shouldn't hold someone back from sharing the Gospel message. The church in the book of Acts exploded with growth. The Four Gospels were not even written during this time. The majority of people couldn't even read or write and yet the church grew. How did this happen? They shared how the Gospel changed their lives. A personal testimony of how grace has changed your life will go a lot further than a fact based theological argument for Jesus. People can argue theology all day long, but they cannot argue against a Graced Changed life.

1 Peter 3:15 reads: <sup>15</sup> But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect." A lot of believers are prepared to give an answer, but the problem is no one is asking. They hang around

Christians every day of every week and never have the opportunity to share with someone who doesn't believe. Another reason non-believers are not asking is they don't see a difference in Christians lives. They see believers living and acting just like everyone else in the world. There is not enough of a distinguishable difference to make them want to ask about the living hope believers have. They don't see a life changed by grace, rather a life ruled by religion. All believers are supposed to live a life changed by grace and be prepared to share this grace with everyone. This is to be done with gentleness and respect.

**Bible Study:**

1. What hinders people from sharing the Gospel? What hinders you from sharing?
2. Romans 3:10 & 23: <sup>10</sup> As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one <sup>23</sup> for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God". How would you respond to someone who thinks they are good enough to get to heaven?
3. Read Ephesians 2:8-10: <sup>8</sup> For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do". We are taught from a young age that nothing is free. What do you say to someone who thinks they need to earn grace?
4. Read John 14:6. Jesus answered: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." How do you respond to someone who thinks one way to God is too restrictive?
5. Read John 3:16: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." If you are part of the whoever crowd, then this verse applies to you. If someone told you they are not good enough for Jesus, how would you respond?
6. How can your personal testimony of how grace has changed your life be used to share the Gospel?

7. Think of someone you can share the Gospel message with. What is your plan to make this happen?