



## HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

Every group session consists of three main phases: **Connect**, **Learn**, and **Apply**. Each session of this guide is broken down into each of the phases to make it easier for you to facilitate discussion with your group.

The **Connect** phase of the group is usually between 5-15 minutes and it is where you take the time to connect relationally with the people in your group. Whether that be through an icebreaker or just a check-in on how everyone is doing in the group.

The **Learn** phase is when the group dives into discussion about a specific topic. This is usually the bulk of the group meeting and lasts between 30-45 minutes. Whether it be a piece of scripture or video. With this study you will be discussing video sessions from Pastor Heath. All video sessions can be found on the Pinnacle Church App.

The **Apply** phase is when you as a group discuss how you will take what you've learned in this session and apply it to your actual lives. This is the best feature of growth group time as this is where life change can really begin to take place. This phase is also where you come along side and pray for one another and how you can apply what you're learning to your various contexts.

If you have any questions about how to use this study make sure to reach out to your growth group coach.



## **Week 2**

**Text:** Matthew 23:23-28. Matthew 11:28-30

**Big Idea of the Message:** Life under God aims at “getting it right” but ends up “getting it wrong”

**Next Step:** Change your aim from "getting it right" to getting more Jesus

### **Connect:**

- **ASK:** If you could have magical powers, which would you choose and why?
- **SAY:** Often, we approach God as if we can control his response to us by what we do. In this past Sunday’s message and in today’s video from Skye Jethani we explore how we often try to control God by following all the rules.

### **Learn:**

Take some time to watch this week’s video found on the Right Now Media at: <https://app.rightnowmedia.org/en/player/video/770977?session=790726>

Or on the Pinnacle Church App at: <https://pinnaclechurch.subspla.sh/v5m575g>

Then discuss the following:

### **Discussion Topics and Questions:**

1. Why do people rely on certain practices and behaviors to appease God?
2. How does a person living “under God” mimic a devout, godly person?
3. Why does life “under God” ultimately fail?
4. What kind of good behavior did you grow up thinking would result in God’s approval? What did your view of God lead you to expect when you failed to behave appropriately?
5. To what degree have you lived with a Life Under God perspective?

6. Have someone read Matthew 23:23-38. What does Jesus's sharp tone communicate to you about the importance he placed on the congruent life, one in which our inner life matches our outward appearance? How do you think he would speak to us today?

### **Application**

7. People who are unhappy with the church sometimes point to what they call the hypocrisy of church leaders and members. And that criticism is often justified. What changes would you like to see in our community that would better reflect the heart of Jesus? How can you help bring about that change?
8. Have someone read Matthew 11:28-30. In what ways do you still struggle to trust Jesus and rest? How has your faith in Jesus given you the ability to release your burdens? What can you do now to relinquish control over a specific burden and trust in God's care for you?

### **Closing:**

Take time to ask if there are any requests the group can pray for this week.

### **Pray**

Spend some time praying for your group to find rest in the life that Christ offers. Ask God to help you see your motivations as you worship and obey.