

DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE

A Life-Group guide for sermon discussion, personal reflection, and next steps



SWAT | HONEST GENEROSITY | PASTOR DAN SMITH | SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

As disciples, we're called not just to be informed but to be transformed into people who look more like Jesus—in our homes, our workplaces, and our communities. This guide helps you apply what we're learning at New Life Church to your weekly rhythms. Use it to engage in daily Bible reading, have meaningful conversations with your group, and take clear next steps in following Jesus.

WEEKLY SUMMARY

Acts 4:32-5:11 shows a church where God's grace produced unity, practical care, and generous action. The believers did not treat their possessions as ends in themselves; they willingly used what God had entrusted to them to meet needs. Barnabas becomes a clear example: he sold a field, gave the proceeds, and trusted the apostles to use the gift to care for others.

The story of Ananias and Sapphira exposes the opposite danger. Their problem was not that they kept part of the money; Peter makes clear that the property and proceeds were theirs to manage. Their sin was pretending to be more generous than they actually were. The sermon calls us to generosity with our resources, time, and talents, and to complete honesty before God rather than chasing the approval of people.

GRACE

CARE FOR ONE ANOTHER

Be known and know others

GENEROSITY

PUT LOVE INTO ACTION

Resources, time, and talents

HONESTY

FEAR GOD, NOT APPROVAL

Give and live truthfully

RESOURCES

Sunday's Sermon

Table Talk Podcast

Download the New Life Church app

KEY SCRIPTURE

"All the believers were one in heart and mind... and God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them."

ACTS 4:32-34

GROUP DISCUSSION



Use these questions to move from sermon notes to honest conversation, prayer, and obedience.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GRACE THAT CARES

- Acts 4:32-35 describes believers who were one in heart and mind and who shared so that needs were met. What does this kind of unity look like in everyday church life?
- The sermon connects being in a Life Group and serving on a team with being known and knowing others. How can real relationships help us recognize needs we might otherwise miss?

GENEROSITY PUTS LOVE INTO ACTION

- Acts 4:36-37 shows Barnabas using what he had to provide for others. What resources, time, skills, or spiritual gifts has God entrusted to you that could bless someone else?
- The sermon says, 'God blesses us all to be a blessing.' Where is generosity easiest for you, and where does it require more trust?

HONESTY BEFORE GOD

- Acts 5:1-11 makes clear that Ananias and Sapphira were free to give part of the sale; the issue was their lie. Why can the desire to look devoted be spiritually dangerous?
- How can comparison or the desire for people's approval tempt us to exaggerate, hide, or present a false picture of our spiritual lives?

TAKE AN HONEST NEXT STEP

- Where is God inviting you to respond this week: generosity, recurring giving or tithing, joining a group, serving on a team, meeting a need, or becoming more honest about an area you have tried to hide?

WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Know God by reading Acts 4:32-5:11 and asking what grace-produced generosity looks like in your life. Find Freedom by being known in a Life Group or on a team and making room for honest relationships. Discover Purpose by identifying one resource, skill, or gift God has given you to bless others. Make a Difference by taking one concrete step of generosity this week - and do it honestly, without seeking recognition.

PRAYER GUIDE

Father, thank You for the grace You have shown us through Jesus. Make us one in heart and mind. Teach us to hold what You have given us with open hands, to notice the needs around us, and to give our time, resources, and gifts with joy. Search our hearts and free us from comparison, image management, and dishonesty. Help us fear You more than we crave approval, and make our lives a truthful reflection of Your generosity. Amen.

CLOSING THOUGHT

"God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all..." - Acts 4:33

Generosity is not a performance. It is grace becoming visible through honest people who recognize that what God has given them can become His provision for someone else. Let grace move you toward open hands, truthful hearts, and practical care.