

DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE

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



SWAT: SPIRITUAL WARFARE AND TACTICS | WHO WILL STAND ON YOUR SHOULDERS? | PASTOR KELSEY SMITH | AUGUST 23, 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

In Acts 2:36-41, the crowd hears Peter proclaim Jesus and is "cut to the heart." Pastor Kelsey showed how the Holy Spirit transformed Peter from fearful and impulsive into a bold witness, and how the same Spirit still changes us. God's Word pierces our hearts, conviction moves us toward God's people, and repentance turns us away from our old direction toward Jesus. But transformation is never meant to end with us. The promise is for us, our children, and those far away. Our faith should become a foundation others can stand on as the gospel moves through homes, neighborhoods, classrooms, workplaces, generations, and nations.

CHANGED

The Spirit transforms us

TURN

Repentance changes direction

PASS IT ON

The promise does not stop with us

RESOURCES

- [Sunday's Sermon](#)
- [Table Talk Podcast](#)
- [Download the New Life Church app](#)

KEY VERSE

"This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away-all who have been called by the Lord our God."

ACTS 2:39

GROUP DISCUSSION



Use these questions to let the Spirit search your heart, turn conviction into action, and consider who may stand on the shoulders of your faith.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

THE SPIRIT CHANGES YOU

- Acts 2:14, 36-41. Peter went from denying Jesus to boldly proclaiming Him after being filled with the Holy Spirit. Where do you most need the Spirit to replace fear, inconsistency, or self-reliance with courage and obedience?
- Pastor Kelsey said, "The Holy Spirit didn't find a fearless man. He filled a fearful one." What weakness have you been treating as a disqualification that God may want to transform and use?

LET THE WORD PIERCE YOUR HEART

- Acts 2:37; Ephesians 6:17. Peter once cut an ear with a physical sword; now the Spirit's sword-the Word-cut hearts. How do you usually respond when Scripture exposes something in you: defensiveness, avoidance, or humility?
- Psalm 139:23-24; James 1:21. What is one area where you can honestly pray, "Search me, God," and humbly receive what He shows you?

REPENT AND TURN

- Acts 2:37-38; Acts 3:19. The crowd asked, "Brothers, what should we do?" What conviction is God asking you to turn into a concrete next step rather than merely agreeing with it?
- Pastor Kelsey described repentance as rerouting: you cannot turn toward Jesus without turning away from something else. What habit, bitterness, relationship, ambition, secret sin, self-rule, or offense needs a U-turn?

WHO WILL STAND ON YOUR SHOULDERS?

- Acts 2:39. Who helped form the shoulders of faith you stand on? What did they do that you want to carry forward?
- The promise moves from you, to your children, to those far off. Who is in your sphere of influence-family, neighborhood, school, team, or workplace-who could stand on your shoulders because you faithfully passed the gospel on?

WEEKLY CHALLENGE

DON'T LET IT STOP WITH YOU. Know God: ask the Holy Spirit each day to search your heart through Scripture. Find Freedom: name one area where God is calling you to repent and tell a trusted believer what step you are taking. Discover Purpose: identify one to three people in your sphere of influence who may one day stand on the shoulders of your faith. Make a Difference: take one real step to pass the gospel on-share your story, invite someone to church, pray with them, or open Scripture together.

PRAYER GUIDE

Holy Spirit, change me. Give me a soft heart that receives Your Word, courage to repent when You show me where I am off course, and humility to walk with Your people. Show me who You have placed in my sphere of influence. Let the gospel not stop with me. Help me build a life of faith strong enough for my children, friends, neighbors, coworkers, and those far off to stand on. In Jesus' name, amen.

CLOSING THOUGHT

"The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off-for all whom the Lord our God will call." - Acts 2:39

Somebody carried the gospel to you. Now you have the privilege and responsibility to carry it forward. The question is not only what God is doing in you, but who may meet Jesus because you let His work flow through you.