

DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE

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



NLC 10TH BIRTHDAY | FAITHFUL AND NOT FINISHED | DAN & KELSEY SMITH | SEPTEMBER 27, 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

New Life's 10-year anniversary is a memorial stone and a fresh invitation. Dan and Kelsey pointed to God's faithfulness through salvations, restored families, changed lives, answered prayers, open doors, battles, and provision. Like Israel at the Jordan and the Passover, God's people remember His works so the next generation will know His power and worship Him.

The message called the church to celebrate without stopping. A milestone is not the destination. God is still calling New Life to reach people, strengthen families, disciple generations, raise leaders, resource ministry, and serve Kalamazoo and beyond. Because God has been faithful, our response is a faithful next yes.

REMEMBER

WHAT GOD HAS DONE

Tell the stories

CONTINUE

MILESTONE, NOT DESTINATION

Keep moving forward

RESPOND

FAITHFUL NEXT YES

Pray, serve, give, witness, obey

RESOURCES

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

KEY SCRIPTURE

"In the future, when your children ask you, 'What do these stones mean?'"

JOSHUA 4:6-7

GROUP DISCUSSION



Use these questions to move from remembering God's faithfulness to faithful response.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

REMEMBER GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

- **Joshua 4:6-7** shows God's people building a memorial so future generations would ask what God had done. What story of God's faithfulness do you need to remember and retell?
- **Exodus 12:26-27** connects remembrance with worship. How can looking back at answered prayers, open doors, and changed lives lead you to worship instead of nostalgia?

HOLD HOPE AND KEEP GOING

- **Hebrews 10:23** says to hold unswervingly to hope because the One who promised is faithful. Where do you need that kind of steady hope right now?
- **Philippians 1:6** says God carries His work to completion. How does that promise shape the way you view New Life's next ten years?

DO NOT STOP AT THE MILESTONE

- **Joshua 4:21-24** says God acted so all peoples would know His hand is powerful. Where might God be calling New Life, or you personally, to keep moving forward?
- **Philippians 3:13-14** points us toward what is ahead. What is the danger of treating a celebration as the finish line?

GIVE A FAITHFUL RESPONSE

- The message named faithful responses: pray, serve, give, witness, obey, and trust Him. Which one feels like your next yes this week?
- Who is one person, family, generation, or ministry you can strengthen as part of God's continuing work through New Life?

WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Mark one memorial stone this week. To **Know God**, read Joshua 4 and Hebrews 10:23. To **Find Freedom**, tell someone one specific story of God's faithfulness in your life. To **Discover Purpose**, identify the faithful next yes God is putting in front of you. To **Make a Difference**, take one concrete step to pray, serve, give, witness, or encourage someone who needs hope.

PRAYER GUIDE

Father, thank You for Your faithfulness through every salvation, restored family, changed life, answered prayer, open door, and hard season. Forgive us for forgetting what You have done or treating a milestone as the destination. Give us courage to keep moving, to pass the story to the next generation, and to say yes to the work You are not finished doing. Use New Life to reach people, strengthen families, disciple generations, raise leaders, and serve Kalamazoo and beyond. In Jesus' name, amen.

CLOSING THOUGHT

"He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." - Philippians 1:6

Ten years is a reason to remember, worship, and give thanks. It is also a reminder that God is still writing the story. We are not celebrating because the work is finished; we are celebrating because God has proven He can be trusted with what comes next.