

DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE

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



SWAT: SPIRITUAL WARFARE AND TACTICS | MADE FOR MORE | PASTOR DAN SMITH | AUGUST 16, 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, Peter goes from denying Jesus to boldly proclaiming Him. The difference was not polish, age, status, or a perfect past—it was the power of the Holy Spirit. Pastor Dan's message followed three simple movements: believe God can use you, expect God to move, and encourage people to call on the name of Jesus. Holy anticipation changes how we pray and act: instead of waiting for someone else, we look for opportunities, pray before we know the outcome, and trust that God is already working. Good works matter, but the gift must point people to the Giver. Our witness ultimately leads to Jesus, because our sin put Him on the cross, His resurrection sets us free, and everyone who calls on His name will be saved.

BELIEVE

God can use you

EXPECT

Live with holy anticipation

WITNESS

Tell people about Jesus

RESOURCES

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

KEY VERSE

"And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

ACTS 2:21

GROUP DISCUSSION



Use these questions to move from believing God can use you to actually expecting Him to move and telling others about Jesus.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

BELIEVE GOD CAN USE YOU

- Acts 2:14-18. Peter denied Jesus only weeks earlier, yet the Holy Spirit empowered him to stand and preach. What weakness, failure, or part of your past most tempts you to believe God cannot use you?
- Acts 2:17-18. God promises to pour out His Spirit on sons and daughters, young and old, men and women. Where might you be disqualifying yourself or someone else from being used by God?

EXPECT GOD TO MOVE

- Acts 2:19-21. Pastor Dan described "holy anticipation." Which pattern sounds more like you right now: praise or worry, opportunities or excuses, big prayers or safe prayers? Why?
- Where is God asking you to pray or act before you can see the outcome? What would it look like to expect God to move while still trusting Him if He moves differently than you hoped?

PRAY, EXPECT, TELL

- Romans 10:14. Who is one person God has placed near you who needs to hear about Jesus? How can you pray for them, ask God to move in their life, and then actually tell them about Jesus?
- The message reminded us that good works can meet a real need, but they cannot save. How can your serving and generosity point people beyond the gift to the Giver?

THE RESURRECTION SETS ME FREE

- Acts 2:22-28. Pastor Dan said, "It's my sin that put Jesus to death, but it's His resurrection that sets me free." What changes when you personally own both parts of that truth?
- Acts 4:12; John 14:6. Why must our witness ultimately lead people to Jesus rather than only to church attendance, morality, or good deeds?

WEEKLY CHALLENGE

WHO NEEDS TO HEAR? To Know God, spend a few focused minutes each day praying for one person who needs Jesus. To Find Freedom, surrender the fear, excuse, or insecurity that keeps you silent. To Discover Purpose, ask where God has already placed you to be His witness. To Make a Difference, take one clear step this week: invite them to church, share what Jesus has done in your life, or explain how they can call on His name.

PRAYER GUIDE

Holy Spirit, help me believe You can use me and give me courage to live with holy anticipation. Show me where You are already working and who You are sending me to. Jesus, thank You that Your resurrection sets me free. Prepare the heart of the person You have put on my mind, and give me the words and obedience to tell them about You. Amen.

CLOSING THOUGHT

"There is salvation in no one else! God has given no other name under heaven by which we must be saved." - Acts 4:12

You were made for more than simply receiving the gospel. The Holy Spirit empowers you to carry it. Believe God can use you, expect Him to move, and make sure the people He has placed around you hear the name that saves: Jesus.