

Life Group STUDY GUIDE

What you will need to supplement this guide:

1. A copy of the outline provided for notes on this message (copy from message or downloaded from the COASTAL APP.
2. A Bible or Bible APP to refer to verses.

PURSUING LIFE TOGETHER SUNDAY MESSAGE REVIEW

NOTE to the Life Group Leader: This guide is provided as a tool to assist you in facilitating a structured discussion with your group. When used in conjunction with the outline notes and a Bible this tool will ensure that your group will *Engage Authentically*. The questions are merely recommended “talk starters”. It is important for you to let God help you navigate through the conversation as you *pursue life together* as a group.

OPEN IN PRAYER

STARTER QUESTIONS:

Where have you seen God at work in your life since we last met?

What stood out to you from the message this week?

MAIN IDEA:

- REVIEW THE MAIN TOPIC OF THE MESSAGE. Allow time for discussion
- READ THE MAIN SCRIPTURE FROM THE MESSAGE OUTLINE.

How did this verse speak to you in your life?

- REVIEW THE SUB-TOPICS of the MESSAGE.

Have someone read each of the verses that were highlighted in the message, and briefly discuss.

Is there an area that you feel God is speaking to you through this message?

FINAL THOUGHTS:

- SUMMARIZE the main idea of this message.

Would anyone like to share your thoughts about what we discussed today?

How can we pray for you as a group?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

ASKING FOR A FRIEND

“Why is there suffering?”

October 21, 2018

Jesus: *“Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows.”* John 16:33 (NLT)

“Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely.” 1 Corinthians 13:12 (NLT)

Why do bad things happen?

- God is not real – Evil is real
- God is real – Evil is not real
- God is real – Evil is real

“I am the A and the Z, the Beginning and the Ending of all things,” says God, *who is the... All Powerful One.*” Revelation 1:8 (TLB)

“For God is good, and he loves goodness.” Psalm 11:7 (TLB)

What is Free Will? Our God-given ability to make choices (good or bad)

Where is God when bad things happen?

- He’s nearby

“The Lord is close to those whose hearts are breaking... The good man does not escape all troubles-- he has them too. But the Lord helps him in each and every one.” Psalm 34:18-19 (TLB)

“God has said, “Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.” So we say with confidence, “The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid.” Hebrews 13:5-6 (NIV)

“God did this so that men would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from each one of us.” Acts 17:27 (NIV)

- He’s been there

“He was despised and rejected-- a man of sorrows, acquainted with bitterest grief... he was wounded and crushed.... He was beaten.... He was whipped.... He was oppressed and treated harshly...” Isaiah 53:3-7 (NLT)

- He's being patient

“The Lord is... patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.”

2 Peter 3:9 (NIV)

SONG: “IT IS WELL”