

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

LIVING IN THE LAND BETWEEN

“Thou Shall Not Steal”

“You shall not steal.”

Exodus 20:15 (ESV)

Stealing - the taking of property of another, without permission or legal right, with the intent to permanently deprive them of their property.

*“Will you **steal**, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, make offerings to Baal, and go after other gods that you have not known, and then come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, ‘We are delivered!’—only to go on doing all these abominations?”*

Jeremiah 7:9,10 (ESV)

What the Old Testament says about stealing:

“Whoever steals a man and sells him, and anyone found in possession of him, shall be put to death.”

Exodus 21:16 (ESV)

“If a man steals an ox or a sheep, and kills it or sells it, he shall repay five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep.”

Exodus 22:1 (ESV)

“People do not despise a thief if he steals to satisfy his appetite when he is hungry, but if he is caught, he will pay sevenfold; he will give all the goods of his house.”

Proverbs 6:30-31 (ESV)

“Will a man rob God” Yet, you are robbing me. But you say, ‘How have we robbed you?’ In your tithes and contributions.”

Malachi 3:8,9 (ESV)

What the New Testament says about stealing:

*“Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, **that they may have something to share with those in need.**”*

Ephesians 4:28 (NIV)

“The commandments, ‘You shall not commit adultery,’ ‘You shall not murder,’ ‘You shall not steal,’ ‘You shall not covet,’ and whatever other command there may be, are summed up in this one command: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” Romans 13:9 (NIV)

What Jesus says about stealing:

*“For **out of the heart** come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, sexual immorality, **theft**, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person.”* Matthew 15:19,20 (NIV)

- Stealing involves both tangible and intangible things.
- Stealing is the result of a heart condition.

*“And I will **give them one heart**, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will **remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in my statutes and keep my rules and obey them.** And they shall be my people, and I will be their God.”*

Ezekiel 11:19-20 (ESV)

- We are not as innocent as we think.

“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him.”
Psalm 24:1 (NLT)

- Allow our heart to be shaped by the gospel!

*“You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by His poverty He could **make you rich!**”*
2 Corinthians 8:9 (NLT)

“Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need.”
Ephesians 4:28 (ESV)

The opposite of stealing is being a generous giver!

When God changes the life of a thief, they become a generous giver!