



# LIFEgroup 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 LIFEgroup 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

## KEEP THE UNITY

*“Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.”*

Ephesians 4:2-3 (NIV)

### How do we “Make every effort to keep the unity...”?

#### 1. Make Jesus’ mission your #1 priority

*“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one... I in them and you in me... So that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”*

John 17:20-23 (NIV)

*“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.”*

John 3:16 (NIV)

*“My heart is broken over the division—not in our nation but in the church. Division. Division is the very thing Jesus was most concerned about—the thing we seem completely unconcerned about. Truth is, we’ve fostered and fueled division by allowing recent political and cultural mayhem to distract us from what our Savior commanded us to do. Consequently, our primary concerns often mirror the concerns of our political party of choice rather than our Savior of choice.”*

-Andy Stanley, “Not in It to Win It”

#### 2. Recognize there are differences in our midst (and that’s ok!)

Unity refers to the union or harmony of a group of people (which is a choice)  
whereas uniformity is all about ensuring there are no differences.

Uniformity means everything is the same = BORING!

Unity means to BE TOGETHER - NOT THE SAME

#### 3. Treat people who are different than me with love.

Jesus: *“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”*

John 17:34-35 (NIV)

*“You can’t hate people and engage them with the gospel at the same time. You can’t war with people and show the love of Jesus. You can’t be both outraged and on mission.”*

-Ed Stetzer in “Christians in the Age of Outrage”