



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

PERSON OF INTEREST

“Nicodemus: What’s Holding You Back?”

“There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.” Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.” John 3:1-3 (NKJV)

*“This man came to Jesus **by night**...”* John 3:2 (NKJV)

*“...and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come **from God**; for no one can do these signs that You do unless **God is with** him.”* John 3:2 (NKJV)

Jesus talks about:

- Spiritual Rebirth (vs. 3-12)
- The key to being Born Again is Jesus (vs. 13-17)
- How judgement, evil and sin work (vs. 18-21)

“Jesus replied, “You are a respected Jewish teacher, and yet you don’t understand these things?” John 3:10 (NLT)

Jesus: “I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth.” Revelation 3:15-16 (NIV)

Faith Stages:

- 8 Resistance or antagonism to the idea of a supreme being (Resistant Stage)
 - 7 Belief in a supreme being, but not a personal God (like Bible teaches)
 - 6 Belief in a personal God, but not interested in organized religion
 - 5 Ok with the Church, and know of some Christians that aren’t weird/scary
 - 4 Curious about Jesus - finds Him interesting
 - 3 Open to the idea of following Jesus: “Jesus could be for me”.
 - 2 Realizes Jesus is worth taking seriously
 - 1 Decides it’s time to turn to Jesus.
- “Born Again”
- +1 Gets Baptized
 - +2 Joins a Church Family
 - +3 Invites others to church
 - +4 Regularly reads the Bible and Prays
 - +5 Connects with a LIFEGroup
 - +6 Uses God-given talents to serve others
 - +7 Willing to tell others about Jesus
 - +8 Gives financially to support the ministry of the local church

What was holding Nicodemus back from being all-in with Jesus?

- He had a lot to lose

“There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews... a respected Jewish teacher.”
John 3:1; 10 (NKJV)

Jesus: *“If anyone is ashamed of me and my message, the Son of Man will be ashamed of that person when he returns in his glory and in the glory of the Father and the holy angels.”*

Luke 9:26 (NLT)

- He had God all figured out

“There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus...”

John 3:1 (NKJV)