



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

BETTER TOGETHER

“Life-Giving Friendships”

The quality of your connections and community are the #1 factor in experiencing a satisfying life.

What is true about friendship?

1. We were created to be in relationship

“The LORD God said, “It is not good for man to be alone.” Genesis 2:18 (LB)

There is a fundamental piece of who we were created to be that is only found in deep relationship with other people.

“You are better off to have a friend than to be all alone... If you fall, your friend can help you up. But if you fall without having a friend nearby, you are really in trouble.”

Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 (CEV)

2. Bad friendships will hurt you.

“A righteous man is cautious in friendships...”

Proverbs 12:26 (NIV)

Avoid people (Potential Friends) who are:

Lazy

2 Thessalonians 3:6-10, Proverbs 12:24

Angry

Proverbs 22:24-25, Proverbs 16:32

Immoral

1 Corinthians 5:9-11, Ephesians 5:3-7, 1 Corinthians 15:53

Greedy

Ecclesiastes 5:10-11, Proverbs 23:6-7, Proverbs 15:27

Unbelieving

2 Corinthians 6:14-17, Psalm 53:1, Psalm 1:1

3. Healthy friendships make life go better

Characteristics to look for in people that you would call a close friend:

- Wisdom

“He who walks with the wise grows wise.”

Proverbs 13:20 (NIV)

- Loyalty

"There are 'friends' who pretend to be friends, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother."

Proverbs 18:24 (LB)

- Spiritually encouraging

"I'm eager to encourage you in your faith, but I also want to be encouraged by yours. In this way, each of us will be a blessing to the other."

Romans 1:12 (NLT)

4. Developing healthy friendships is not easy.

"Since our friendship with God was restored by the death of his Son while we were still his enemies, we will certainly be saved through the life of his Son. So now we can rejoice in our wonderful new relationship with God because our Lord Jesus Christ has made us friends of God."

Romans 5:10-11 (NLT)