



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

SEVEN LAST WORDS
“Today, You Will Be With Me In Paradise”

Jesus replied, "I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise." Luke 23:43 (NLT)

“Two others, both criminals, were led out to be executed with him. When they came to a place called The Skull, they nailed him to the cross. And the criminals were also crucified—one on his right and one on his left. One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, “So you’re the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us, too, while you’re at it! But the other criminal protested, “Don't you fear God even when you are dying? We deserve to die for our evil deeds, but this man hasn't done anything wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.” And Jesus replied, “I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.” Luke 23:32-43 (NLT)

“One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, “So you’re the Messiah, are you? Prove it by saving yourself—and us, too, while you’re at it!” Luke 23:39 (NLT)

Reasons people don’t believe in Jesus:

- They go along with the crowd.
 - Vs. 35: The Religious Leaders sneered at Jesus
 - Vs. 36: The Soldiers mocked Jesus
 - Vs. 39: One of the Criminals hurled insults at Jesus
- They’re angry at God.

“One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, “So you're the Messiah, are you? Prove it!” Luke 23:39 (NLT)

“Where is this God of yours, Gump? I wish your Jesus were here right now!” -Lt. Dan
“It’s funny Lt. Dan said that ‘cause right then, God showed up.” -Forrest Gump
“I think Lt. Dan finally made his peace with God.” -Forrest Gump

- They don’t have a healthy fear of God.

“But the other criminal protested, “Don't you fear God even when you are dying?” Luke 23:40 (NLT)

O sinner! Consider the fearful danger you are in: it is a great furnace of wrath, a wide and bottomless pit, full of the fire of wrath, that you are held over in the hand of that God, whose wrath is provoked and incensed as much against you, as against many of the damned in hell. You hang by a slender thread, with the flames of divine wrath flashing about it, and ready every moment to singe it, and burn it asunder; It is *everlasting* wrath. It would be dreadful to suffer this fierceness and wrath of Almighty God one moment; but you must suffer it to all eternity. There will be no end to this exquisite horrible misery.

-Jonathon Edwards, from his sermon: Sinner in the Hands of an Angry God

“Since we have been made right in God’s sight by faith, we have peace with God because of what Jesus Christ our Lord has done for us.” Romans 5:1 (NLT)

How can we know we’re going to Heaven?

(3 Responses of the 2nd Thief)

1. Admit your sin (vs.41a) *“We deserve to die for our evil deeds”*
2. Believe in Jesus (vs.41b) *“This man has done nothing wrong”*

“God had Christ, who was sinless, take our sin so that we might receive God’s approval through him.”

2 Corinthians 5:21 (GW)

3. Commit your life to Christ (vs.42) *“Jesus, remember me”*

Jesus to 2nd thief: *“I assure you, today you will be with me in paradise.”* Luke 23:43 (NLT)

“If you confess that Jesus is your Lord, and you believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” Romans 10:9 (NIV)