



# 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

## RESILIENCE

### “A Spiritual Wake Up Call”

*“King Belshazzar gave a great feast for 1,000 of his nobles, and he drank wine with them. While Belshazzar was drinking the wine, he gave orders to bring in the gold and silver cups that his predecessor, Nebuchadnezzar, had taken from the Temple in Jerusalem. He wanted to drink from them with his nobles, his wives, and his concubines. So they brought these gold cups taken from the Temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and ...drank from them. While they drank from them they praised their idols...”*  
Daniel 5:1-4 (NLT)

*“Suddenly, they saw the fingers of a human hand writing on the plaster wall of the king’s palace, near the lampstand. The king himself saw the hand as it wrote, and his face turned pale with fright. His knees knocked together in fear and his legs gave way beneath him.”*  
Daniel 5:5-6 (NLT)

*“Your Majesty, the Most High God gave sovereignty, majesty, glory, and honor to your predecessor, Nebuchadnezzar. He made him so great that people of all races and nations and languages trembled before him in fear. ...But when his heart and mind were puffed up with arrogance, he was brought down from his royal throne and stripped of his glory. He was driven from human society. He was given the mind of a wild animal, and he lived among the wild donkeys. He ate grass like a cow, and he was drenched with the dew of heaven, until he learned that the Most High God rules over the kingdoms of the world and appoints anyone he desires to rule over them. “You are his successor, O Belshazzar, and you knew all this, yet you have not humbled yourself. For you have proudly defied the Lord of heaven... you have not honored the God who gives you the breath of life and controls your destiny! So God has sent this hand to write this message.”*  
Daniel 5:18-24 (NLT)

We avoid responsibility for knowing the truth,  
because we want to do what we want to do.

*“This is what these words mean: Mene: God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end. Tekel: You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting. Peres: Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians.” Then at Belshazzar's command, Daniel was clothed in purple, a gold chain was placed around his neck, and he was proclaimed the third highest ruler in the kingdom. That very night Belshazzar, king of the Babylonians, was slain.”*  
Daniel 5:26-30 (NIV)

### Illusions we cling to:

1. “I’ve got plenty of time.” To which God says: “Mene” God has numbered your days.
2. “I’m good enough.” To which God says: “Tekel” God has a holy standard by which He measures us.
3. “The reality of my life seems solid and invincible.” To which God says: “Peres” God’s reality will eventually burst the illusion of your reality.

## **Spiritual Wake-Up Calls:**

- Jesus showing His real glory (Matthew 17:1-6)
- Jesus being raised from the Dead (John 20:1-16)
- Jesus' return (Luke 17:26-36; 1Thessalonians 5:2-3)
- Judgment Day (Matthew 7:21-23)
- Punishment of Hell (Luke 16:22-24)
- Rewards of Heaven (Luke 6:23; Daniel 12:13)
- The End of the World (Matthew 24:3-14)

*“What sign will signal your return and the end of the world?”*      Matthew 24:3 (NLT)

*“... many will come in my name, claiming, ‘I am the Messiah,’ and will deceive many. You will hear of wars and rumors of wars... but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains. Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me. At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold.... And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in the whole world... and then the end will come.”*

Matthew 24:5-14 (NIV)

## **8 Signs of the End:**

1. False teachers and fake religions
2. Wars and ongoing threats of world conflict
3. An Increase in natural disasters
4. More and more Christians persecuted for their faith
5. More and more Christians publicly renouncing their faith
6. Division and discord among Christians
7. Evil and wickedness will multiply
8. The Gospel proclaimed throughout the whole world.