



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

THE MYSTERY OF CHRISTMAS
“Eyewitness”

“Many people have set out to write accounts about the events that have been fulfilled among us. They used the eyewitness reports circulating among us from the early disciples. Having carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I also have decided to write an accurate account for you, most honorable Theophilus, so you can be certain of the truth of everything you were taught.” Luke 1:1-4 (NLT)

“These are the researches of Herodotus of Halicarnassus, which he publishes, in order to preserve from oblivion the remembrance of former deeds of men.”
-Herodotus’ The Histories

Luke uses the Greek word “Eyewitness” - αὐτόπτης - autoptēs

“But his mother treasured all these things in her heart.” Luke 2:51 (NIV)

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Cycle of Divine Communication:

| Our Word | What it means | Explanation | Luke’s description: |
|---------------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| <u>Revelation</u> | God to Man | When God revealed Himself to man | <i>“...events that have been fulfilled among us.”</i> |
| <u>Inspiration</u> | Man to Paper | When men recorded God’s revelation | <i>“I... decided to write an accurate account...”</i> |
| <u>Preservation</u> | Their Time to Ours | When God protects His Word thru the ages | <i>“...an accurate account for you, most honorable Theophilus”</i> |
| <u>Illumination</u> | God’s Word to My Life | When we understand and apply God’s Word | <i>“...so you can be certain of the truth of everything you were taught.”</i> |

“...like those who hear God's teaching and accept it gladly, but they don't allow the teaching to go deep into their lives. They believe for a while, but when trouble comes, they give up.”

Luke 8:13 (NCV)