



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

RELATIONSHIP GOALS

“True Friends: What to look for and how to be one!”

“The heartfelt counsel of a friend is as sweet as perfume and incense.”

Proverbs 27:9 (NLT)

“Do not be deceived: Bad company ruins good morals.” 1 Corinthians 15:33 (ESV)

“There are “friends” who destroy each other, but a real friend sticks closer than a brother.”

Proverbs 18:24 (NLT)

3 Characteristics of a True Friend

*“As soon as he had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was knit to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. And Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house. Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul. **And Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that was on him and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and his bow and his belt.**”*

1 Samuel 18:1-4 (ESV)

1. They'll recognize your strengths and abilities, and will promote you (even over themselves).

- Whose the friend that encourages you to be the best Christ follower you can be?
- Who is the person or people that YOU do those things for?

*“And Saul spoke to Jonathan his son and to all his servants, that they should kill David. But Jonathan, Saul's son, delighted much in David. **And Jonathan told David, “Saul my father seeks to kill you. Therefore be on your guard in the morning. Stay in a secret place and hide yourself. And I will go out and stand beside my father in the field where you are, and I will speak to my father about you. And if I learn anything I will tell you.”** And Jonathan spoke well of David to Saul his father and said to him, **“Let not the king sin against his servant David, because he has not sinned against you, and because his deeds have brought good to you. For he took his life in his hand and he struck down the Philistine, and the Lord worked a great salvation for all Israel. You saw it, and rejoiced. Why then will you sin against innocent blood by killing David without cause?”** And Saul listened to the voice of Jonathan.”*

1 Samuel 19:1-7 (ESV)

2. They'll join you in the battle!

*“David saw that Saul had come out to seek his life. David was in the wilderness of Ziph at Horesh. And Jonathan, Saul's son, rose and went to David at Horesh, and strengthened his hand in God. And he said to him, **“Do not fear, for the hand of Saul my father shall not find you. You shall be king over Israel, and I shall be next to you. Saul my father also knows this.”** And the two of them made a covenant before the Lord. David remained at Horesh, and Jonathan went home.”*

1 Samuel 23:15-18 (ESV)

3. They'll strengthen you in the Lord.

It doesn't matter how spiritual we are, we will never outgrow the need for encouragement.

- Who are the people in our lives that are intentional about strengthening us?
- Who are you intentional about strengthening and encouraging in the Lord?