



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

REBUILD

“Knowing Your Enemy“
(Nehemiah 6:1-13)

“Sanballat, Tobiah, Geshem the Arab, and the rest of our enemies found out that I had finished rebuilding the wall and that no gaps remained—though we had not yet set up the doors in the gates. **So Sanballat and Geshem sent a message asking me to meet them at one of the villages in the plain of Ono.** But I realized they were plotting to harm me, so I replied by sending this message to them: **“I am engaged in a great work, so I can’t come. Why should I stop working to come and meet with you?”** Four times they sent the same message, and each time I gave the same reply.”

Nehemiah 6:1-4 (NLT)

The First Tactic: Distract you from your assignment.

1. Recognize it!
2. Be disciplined!

“The fifth time, Sanballat’s servant came with an **open letter** in his hand, and this is what it said: “There is a **rumor** among the surrounding nations, **and Geshem tells me it is true**, that you and the Jews are planning to rebel and that is why you are building the wall. According to his reports, you plan to be their king. He also reports that you have appointed prophets in Jerusalem to proclaim about you, ‘Look! There is a king in Judah!’” **“You can be very sure that this report will get back to the king**, so I suggest that you come and talk it over with me.” I replied, **“There is no truth in any part of your story.** You are making up the whole thing.” They were just trying to intimidate us, imagining that they could discourage us and stop the work. **So I continued the work with even greater determination.**”

Nehemiah 6:5-9 (NLT)

The Second Tactic: Destroy your character.

We must be secure in our identity!

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.”

2 Corinthians 5:17 (ESV)

“A lion never loses sleep over the opinion of sheep.”

“Later I went to visit Shemaiah son of Delaiah and grandson of Mehetabel, who was confined to his home. He said, **“Let us meet together inside the Temple of God and bolt the doors shut. Your enemies are coming to kill you tonight.”** But I replied, **“Should someone in my position run from danger? Should someone in my position enter the Temple to save his life? No, I won’t do it!”** I realized that God had not spoken to him, but that he had uttered this prophecy against me because Tobiah and Sanballat had hired him. They were hoping to intimidate me and make me sin. Then they would be able to accuse and discredit me. Remember, O my God, all the evil

things that Tobiah and Sanballat have done. And remember Noadiah the prophet and all the prophets like her who have tried to intimidate me.” Nehemiah 6:10-14 (NLT)

The Third Tactic: Defeat you with fear.

Just because a friend or family member is a Christ follower doesn't mean everything they say is from God.

1. Know God's word.
2. Know God's nature.