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

LEAN IN

"Why do I need to Lean In to God's Word?"

"God's Word generates life, creates faith, produces change, frightens the Devil, causes miracles, heals hurts, builds character, transforms circumstances, imparts joy, overcomes adversity, defeats temptation, infuses hope, releases power, cleanses our minds, brings things into being, and guarantees our future forever."

-Pastor Rick Warren

Why should I lean in to God's Word?

1. Because it adds so many benefits to my life!

Jesus: "The very words I have spoken to you are spirit and life." John 6:63 (NLT)

Promises God makes in His Word:

"Understanding your Word brings light to the minds of ordinary people." Psalm 119:130 (CEV)

"Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path." Psalm 119:105 (NIV)

"Everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope." Romans 15:4 (NIV)

"You're my place of quiet retreat; I wait for your Word to renew me." Psalm 119:114 (MSG)

"If you continue in my Word, then you are truly disciples of mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free!"

John 8:31-32 (NAS)

2. So I don't misunderstand God.

"You must not make for yourself an idol of any kind or an image of anything in the heavens or on the earth or in the sea. You must not bow down to them or worship them, for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God who will not tolerate your affection for any other gods."

Exodus 20:4-5 (NLT)

What if I don't agree with the Bible?

It's important to realize the difference between understanding God's Word and agreeing with God's Word.

Misunderstanding God = Misunderstanding God

3. So I don't miss knowing God personally

2 ways God has chosen to reveal himself to humanity:

General Revelation and Special Revelation.

"The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world."

Psalm 19:1-4 (NIV)

"Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning himself."

Luke 24:27 (NLT)

Jesus: "You search the Scriptures because you think they give you eternal life. But the Scriptures point to me!"

John 5:39 (NLT)

How do you lean into God's Word?

• You've got to get to know the Bible.

Jesus: "Your trouble is that you don't know the Scriptures..." Mark 12:24 (LB)

• You've got to accept the Bible.

"When you received the Word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men, but as it actually is, the Word of God, which is at work in you who believe."

1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NIV)

• You've got to <u>live out</u> the Bible.

"Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them." John 13:17 (NIV)