

LIFE GROUP GUIDE  
WEEK of March 11-18

**PREPARE:**

Before your group arrives, make sure you take a few minutes to review the Life Group video and the Life Group Guide.

- It will help you be prepared for Life Group conversations ahead of time.
- Test your video display option to make sure it is working before your Life Group members arrive.

**WELCOME:**

Take a few minutes to welcome Life Group members.

**VIDEO:**

Watch the video together

**SCRIPTURE:**

Read **Mark 16:15 & Matthew 28:16-20** together.

**REFLECT**

Give a few minutes after reading the passage together for your group to think about what these verses are trying to teach us.

Mark 16: <sup>15</sup> *He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.*

Matthew 28: <sup>16</sup> Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. <sup>17</sup> When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been

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given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

**QUESTION:**

Have you ever shared your faith with another person and had them express interest?

- How did you respond to them?
- Did this person make a commitment to Christ?
- How did that make you feel?

**QUESTION:**

Without naming names of individuals or churches, have you observed attempts at sharing faith that you thought were ineffective?

- What did you notice and why do you think it didn't work?

**QUESTION:**

Have you ever felt prompted by the Holy Spirit to start a conversation with someone?

- What kind of thoughts ran through your mind?
- How did you respond?
- What was the outcome?

**OBSERVATION:**

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The Holy Spirit desires to partner with us in connecting people to God.

- He will nudge us to move towards others and initiate conversations.
- The Holy Spirit can fill us with compassion for a person.
- The question is: “will we take that prompting seriously.”

**OBSERVATION:**

It could be that since we are unsure how the conversation will go that we do not feel comfortable initiating it.

- It is foreign territory.
- We are not sure what will happen.
- We could be ignored or dismissed.
- OR something amazing could happen.

**OBSERVATION:**

Every person gives their life to something. There are no exceptions to this truth.

- Some give themselves to acquiring things and others to pursuing pleasure.
- Some give themselves to being well liked and approved of.
- Some give themselves to procuring the kind of position or power that puts them in charge.

Christ followers give themselves to people.

- They want other people to discover faith in Christ and grace from Christ.

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- If we really believe that the most important decision a person will ever make will be accepting God's grace, then it makes sense that the most important gift we can give someone is an explanation of how to connect with God.

**QUESTION:**

How do you think a person can recognize an opportunity to initiate a conversation that could lead a person to the grace of God?

- Do you think that God wants us to talk to everyone all the time about faith, or do you think He has strategic opportunities to open a conversation about faith?
- If it is the latter, how do you know when to initiate a conversation?

**OBSERVATION:**

The Holy Spirit may prompt us to begin a conversation with someone about faith. Your awareness of this will seem intangible.

**QUESTION:**

What kind of things do you think you could do to make yourself more aware of promptings from the Holy Spirit in your life?

- How can you increase your awareness of the Holy Spirit's presence in your day?

**OBSERVATION:**

Christ followers who are effective in sharing their faith have learned to pray bold prayers. "God, I am giving my day to you. Use

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me to point someone to you today. As best as I can, I will cooperate with you. If you want me to say something, I will do that. If you want me to be quiet and demonstrate your love by serving, I will do that. I am completely available to you today. Guide me by your Spirit.”

**QUESTION:**

Does that prayer feel risky to you? Why or why not?

**OBSERVATION:**

Our goal is not to contrive ways to get someone saved; rather, our objective is to walk when God prompts us to walk, talk when He says to talk, be quiet when He wants you to stop talking, and not move when He wants you to stay put.

- This is how we can experience God’s supernatural power at work in ordinary days.

**QUESTION:**

Do you believe you have to explain the full plan of salvation in order for your conversation to be successful?

- Do you believe sharing your faith will lead to predictable conversations or unpredictable conversations? Which kind of conversation would you rather have?
- Do you think God might use you to help a person begin to think about spiritual things and use another person to help them take another step?

**OBSERVATION:**

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Every person has a story about how they discovered the grace of God for themselves.

- Something or someone pointed them in a direction that helped their journey.
- There was a prayer they prayed.
- They begin to notice changes in their lives after that prayer.

**QUESTION:**

If someone were to ask you what your story is, could you tell it to them clearly?

- If not, next Sunday will be an important message for you. Pastor Bob will discuss how you can tell your own story when the opportunity arises.

**QUESTION:**

Do you think someone is more likely to open up to a conversation about God if you begin with a question or if you begin with a statement?

- What do you think might be some good questions to begin a conversation like that with?

**OBSERVATION:**

Here are some starter questions if you are interested:

- What do you think are the most common misconceptions people have about God?
- Do you think there could really be such a thing as unconditional love?

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- How do you think your belief or disbelief in God affected your life?
- What do you hope is true about God?

**OBSERVATION:**

You cannot share information about a God you don't know all that well.

- Learning to connect with Him in Scripture and in prayer can powerfully prepare you for divine appointments in your day.

**PRAYER:**

Have members of your group identify people in their lives that they wish would come to faith in Christ. Take a few moments praying for those people and for opportunities to initiate a conversation with them.