

LIFE Group: Study Week 1



Checking In

Does everyone know each other in our LIFE Group? If not, introduce yourself before we discuss our LIFE Group guidelines.

Then, think back to when you first became a Christian. What motivated you to come to Christ, and how has He most impacted your life?



Memory Verse

“If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for My sake, you will save it.”

Matthew 16:25



Outline

Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote in his classic book *The Cost of Discipleship*, “When Christ calls a man He bids him to die.” C. S. Lewis once said, “The only thing Christianity cannot be is moderately important.”

God created us to live with passion—to pray, think, dream, plan and work. Not to waste our lives, but to make the most of every opportunity to do good. Not just to live a casual Christian life, but a life of total obedience to Him.

In Deuteronomy 30:15-20, God promised our lives would be blessed if we live like He commands us to.

“See, I set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction. For I command you today to love the Lord your God, to walk in obedience to Him, and to keep His commands, decrees and laws; then you will live and increase, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you are not obedient, and if you are drawn away to bow down to other gods and worship

them, I declare to you this day that you will certainly be destroyed. You will not live long in the land you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. This day I call the heavens and the earth as witnesses against you that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to His voice, and hold fast to Him. For the Lord is your life, and He will give you many years in the land he swore to give to your fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.”

So here’s a great question: Do you want your next 10 years to be better or worse? There is no status quo. According to your faith, it will be done (Matthew 9:29).

There are three common mistakes people make when it comes to their future.

1. Setting _____ without God.
2. Thinking there’s a _____.
Life is _____.
Life is _____.
3. Putting off what’s _____.



Short Video Material



Discovery Questions

1. Research tells us a large percentage of people don’t have goals. According to God’s Word, why is it essential that we make plans? (Luke 14:28-33)
2. When we make our plans in life, what does God want us to understand about our relationship with Him? (James 4:15)
3. Why does God want us to live with the realization that we are only a heartbeat away from eternity? (James 4:14, Proverbs 27:1)
4. Why should we make it a priority not to procrastinate? (James 4:14-16)
5. Why doesn’t God want us to procrastinate, especially when it comes to our relationships with other people? (Hebrews 10:24-25)



Putting It Into Practice

***There are three things you can do with your life:
waste it, spend it, or invest it!***

1. Make a quality decision to make the most of your life for Christ in the time you have left on the earth.
2. Examine areas of your life that need improvement and make specific goals for positive changes.
3. Be actively involved in a LIFE Group for encouragement and accountability.



Prayer Direction

James 1 says when we need wisdom, simply ask God. God will give you wisdom and direction to achieve the goals that you set.



Diving Deeper

1. Meditate on Scriptures that give you answers about how to make the most of your life for Christ. Jesus promised if we are faithful in little, He'd give us more. As we obey His Word, He will continue to give us deeper revelation of His Word.
2. Also, continue on with the Daily Devotions that follow.