

The Kind Of “Belief” That Changes Everything

Every Book Has A Purpose:

John 20:30-31 / John 14:6

John’s Purpose: To show us that Jesus is the **MESSIAH**,
the **SON OF GOD**, and the only source of **ETERNAL LIFE**.

Two Well-Known Stories:

Feeding **5,000** and Walking on **WATER**

One Main Point:

John 6:1-29

Only **GOD** could **DO THIS!**

What Happens When We Really “BELIEVE”?

1. We move beyond merely believing
some **FACTS** about **JESUS**.

James 2:19-20 / Matthew 15:8

2. We stop worrying about our **DOUBTS**
and start focusing on our **OBEDIENCE**.

Acts 12:1-17 / Daniel 3:16-18 / John 20:24-25 / Luke 17:3-6

3. We do what **JESUS SAYS**, even when
it doesn’t seem to make **SENSE**.

1 John 2:3-4 / John 14:15, 23-24 / Hebrews 11:6

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Life Group Study Questions

For the week of April 2, 2023

WELCOME TO THE SPRING QUARTER OF LIFE GROUPS!

This week we kick off our Spring Life Group Quarter. Your first gathering is designed to give you time to get acquainted, enjoy a meal together and connect with each other, as well as time to discuss how to make your Life Group meetings great! The study questions have been shortened this week to allow ample time to accomplish all of this. To prepare for your first meeting, take some time to focus on the questions below and be prepared to share your answers with the group.

Online Groups - If your group is meeting online, your leaders will be sending you the link for your group. Use this link for tips on meeting with your group online: lifegroups.northcoastchurch.com/pro-tips/

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

One of the great parts of being in a Life Group is getting to know others better. Take a moment to jot down your answers to the questions below and be ready to share with your group.

⇒ Tell us about yourself...

What's the tastiest food you can make (a good sandwich can count)?

What is something that always makes you smile?

⇒ Larry talked about what happens when we really believe. Which one of his points do you think many people miss? Which one caught your attention the most and why?

⇒ Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time, or something that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

DIGGING DEEPER

This weekend we heard how a real belief in Jesus is revealed in our actions, it experiences doubt, and it manages to move forward even when it doesn't make sense. The apostle Paul wrote to the church some things he hoped they would take to heart as they sought to live out the kind of belief that changes everything. Circle anything in the passages below that gives you hope and encouragement in Paul's writing when it comes to your own "life-changing" belief.

Philippians 1:3-13

³ I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴ In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy ⁵ because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, ⁶ being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

⁷ It is right for me to feel this way about all of you, since I have you in my heart and, whether I am in chains or defending and confirming the gospel, all of you share in God's grace with me. ⁸ God can testify how I long for all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹ And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ¹⁰ so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, ¹¹ filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ—to the glory and praise of God.

¹² Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. ¹³ As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ.

Ephesians 3:17-4:3

...And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, ¹⁸ may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹ and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. ²⁰ Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.

⁴ As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. ² Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. ³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Looking back at what you circled...

Is there one you've experienced and seen God work in your life more than the others? If so, explain.

Is there one that is a new (or almost new) idea?

Is there one you need to be reminded of the most?

LOOKING AHEAD

One of the key reasons we meet in Life Groups every week is to gain the encouragement and support we each need to honor God in all we do and keep our focus on Jesus. Before you go over the Life Group Commitment in your group, take a moment and write down your responses to the questions below:

As you think about this quarter, what is one thing you hope to get out of your Life Group experience?

Are there any new areas in your life you would like to grow in or personally focus on this next quarter?

THE PURPOSE OF LIFE GROUPS

Life Groups exist to promote spiritual maturity and personal growth through meaningful Christian relationships and the study of God's Word. (Romans 8:29 & Hebrews 10:24-25). Here's how it will happen:

SHARE

Each week we'll take time to share what is happening in our lives. At first this sharing will include planned "sharing questions." But after the first few weeks, it will become more informal and personal as we feel more comfortable.

STUDY

Each week we'll study a section from God's Word that relates to the previous weekend's sermon or an appropriate personal growth topic. Our goal is to learn how to live out our Christianity in everyday life.

SUPPORT

Each week we'll learn how to take care of one another as Christ commanded (John 15:9-13). This care can take many forms, such as prayer, encouragement, listening, challenging one another and meeting real needs.

SERVE

Spiritual growth is fostered not only by what we gain through the support and input of others, but also through service to others. The role each of us fills is important to the health of the church and for us to be the hands and feet of Jesus to the community in which we live (Ephesians 4:11-16). Throughout the quarter, it is our hope that you can find and/or be affirmed in the ways God has designed you to serve and make a difference in God's Kingdom.



On April 29 & 30, the Church is leaving the building! No in-person services will be held as we head out into our local communities to serve our cities in the name of Jesus. Mark your calendars and sign up to serve with your Life Group! Scan the QR code or go to northcoastchurch.com.

