



## Read the Gospel

**Read the Scripture and overview below before your Life Group meets.**

Scripture passage: John 16

If you are a believer, one blessing you are sure to count is the influence of someone God used to point you to Christ. All of us have at least one person in our lives who took the time to invest in us spiritually. They were living testimonies and witnesses to God's goodness and grace. Yet we struggle with witnessing because we lack confidence in our effectiveness, even though bearing witness to Christ's life and work is the most significant part of being His disciple. Although difficult at times, we must bear witness to that which Jesus has done and become disciples that point others to Him. With joyful, grateful hearts we should strive to tell others of His redemptive work on the cross. As we go about our days, we should live in such a way as to cause others to believe in Jesus and live for His glory.

## Pray for the Work of the Gospel

**Use the first few minutes of your lesson to lead your group in a focused prayer time.**

- **Praise** God for Jesus, our Redeemer.
- **Repent** for the times you have failed to point others to Christ for salvation.
- **Ask** the Holy Spirit to help you identify and invest in someone who does not know Jesus.
- **Yield** to the Holy Spirit as you learn to bear witness to Jesus Christ.

## Engage in the Gospel

**Use these questions to engage in an informative and impactful discussion with your Life Group.**

**Read John 15:26-27 and 16:1-6**

- Ask group members to share times when they have been a witness to Christ and His redemptive work. What was the outcome? Ask them to share times when they have been prompted to witness but did not because of fear, inadequacy, or lack of confidence.
- Describe the work of the Holy Spirit and His responsibility as recorded in John 15:26-27. (See also John 14:26) What are some practical things we can do that will help us remember to rely on the Holy Spirit when facing fear, inadequacy, or confidence issues with regard to sharing our faith.
- Take 10 minutes of your group time, divide into small groups, and have each person share their salvation story in 2 minutes or less. This very practical "rehearsal" can be beneficial when trying to learn how to communicate your faith clearly and accurately.
- To what was Jesus referring in John 16:1-6? Why would the Holy Spirit be so important to them as a result of this? How would the Holy Spirit "keep them from falling away"? How has the Holy Spirit kept you from falling recently?



- **Read John 16:7-11.** What “advantage” does the Helper give believers? (See also John 14:16-8, 26 John 15:26-27, John 16:13-14)
- In what ways do we neglect and disregard the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit?
- Describe times when the Holy Spirit has given you joy, peace, strength, and power.
- The Holy Spirit came to do three specific things according to verses 8-11. What are they?
- How does the Holy Spirit convict (or convince) the world of sin?
- Explain the righteousness or holiness of God. How do we become righteous? (Use Romans 8 and other verses you know to give further explanation regarding the righteousness of God and our righteousness.)
- Explain judgment as discussed in John 16:11. Not only have we been judged and declared not guilty, the adversary has already been judged, found guilty, and been defeated. When and how was he defeated?
- Satan longs to distract, disengage, and discourage believers. What do the following verses remind us about the devil?
  - Genesis 3:4-5
  - John 8:44
  - John 10:10
- What can you do to prevent these things from happening in your life? How can you bear witness to Christ and encourage others not to fall prey to the schemes of the adversary? What can we do to protect ourselves from falling?
- **Read John 16:20-22.** What is the joy that we anticipate as we bear witness to Christ?
- **Read John 16:33.** What does this verse teach us about Christ and our relationship to Him? What does 1 John 5:4-5 teach us about the triumphant victory we have in Christ

## Live the Gospel

**These questions are meant to encourage you to apply spiritual truth and live on mission for Jesus. It is your Life Group leader’s responsibility to challenge you and hold you accountable to taking steps of growth and faith. Take these questions to heart. Allow the Holy Spirit to prompt you to grow in your role as a disciple and ultimately, a disciple-maker.**

- Will you bear witness to Christ this week in your actions and attitudes?
- Who is God asking you to spend time with this week for the purpose of bearing witness to His Son? Will you obey Him?

### **Joshua Code memory verse:**

*And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation.  
– Revelation 5:9*



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