



LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Remember that Life Groups are a place where we practice what is preached. We discuss the Bible for transformation, not just information.



Icebreaker: If you could be join any fictional family (TV, movie, or book) for a week, which one would you choose and why?



PRAY:

Pray together for the Holy Spirit to open your eyes to behold wonderful things (Ps. 119:18) as your group meets with the Lord.



READ:

Ask a group member to read **John 19:26-27 & Matt 12:46-50.**



DISCUSS:

Consider the quote, "The blood of the covenant is thicker than the water of the womb." What do you think it is trying to communicate? Do you believe it to be true?



IDENTITY:

In the passages today, Jesus redefines family around relationship with Him and obedience to the Father. How does seeing yourself as part of Jesus' family shape the way you understand your identity and your relationships with other believers?

WORSHIP

Do you think there is a difference in worshipping a distant God vs one that calls you family? What would those differences practically look like and how does it change our posture towards worshipping God?

COMMUNITY



Jesus creates a family based on belief, not bloodline. Are you able to see your brothers and sisters in Christ as true family? How would your community change if you fully viewed your group as family, just as much as your biological family.

MISSION

Inviting others to follow Jesus is not just an invitation to belief, but an invitation to join the family of God. How could this change the way you approach sharing your faith? How does this reinforce the idea of mission as communal?



MONTHLY GROUP ENGAGE:

Jesus' words on the cross remind us of our mission as His ambassadors. As a group, try this idea to engage in the mission of God or come up with your own.

Who is the one person closest to you, who is the furthest from Jesus? Share whatever name comes to mind with your group, then write the name on on a note card, commit to praying for that person's heart to be open to the gospel. Pray through this list of people every week this month and consider inviting them to one of our Easter services or planning an Easter event you can invite them to.

WE ARE FAMILY:

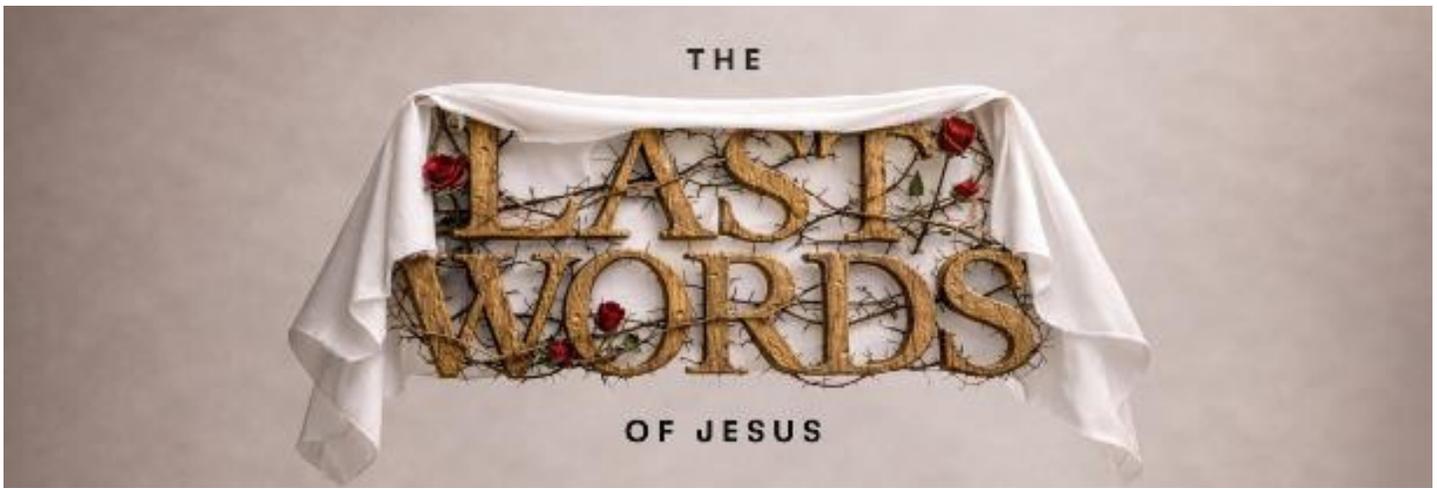
How can you hold each other accountable to respond to God this week?

Share prayer requests (either as a group, or as partners/smaller groups)

VALUE SPOTLIGHT:

BEAUTY | That which reflects the glory of God.

The new diverse communities that Jesus creates as spiritual family reflects His glory and give the world a taste of the kingdom that is to come.



SERIES OVERVIEW:

We connect dying words to the end of life, but Jesus' last words were just the beginning. This Easter season, we're exploring seven powerful things Jesus said from the cross. In this series we'll draw statements from all four Gospels that mark Jesus' death and resurrection as the two most important moments in history.

MARCH 1

Luke 23:34 & Psalm 103:8-12

Big Idea: God's heart is to forgive sinners.
Key Question: Why does Jesus expect the Father to forgive sins?

- Forgiveness is from the nature of God. (v. 8)
- Forgiveness is the plan of God. (vv. 9-10)
- Forgiveness is the work of God. (vv. 11-12)

MARCH 8

Luke 23:35-43

Big Idea: Jesus suffered to save sinners.
Key Question: What attitude do we have towards Jesus' suffering?

- Scoffers expect Jesus to be miraculous. (vv. 35-38)
- Self-righteous dismiss Jesus is capable. (v. 39)
- Sinners ask for Jesus to be merciful. (vv. 40-43)

MARCH 15

John 19:26-27 & Matt 12:46-50

Big Idea: Jesus creates and cares for his spiritual family.
Key Question: How does Jesus create and care for his spiritual family?

- Jesus' family is created by belief, not bloodline. (v. 26)
- Jesus' family is cared for by community, not cast away. (v. 27)

MARCH 22

Matthew 27:46 & Psalm 22:1-24

Big Idea: We receive the highest acceptance because Jesus experienced the deepest agony.
Key Question: What did Jesus experience on our behalf?

- Jesus experienced the deepest agony. (vv. 1-21)
- Jesus received the highest acceptance. (vv. 21b-31)

MARCH 29

John 19:28-29 & Hebrews 2:17-18

Big Idea: Because Jesus is fully human, he is able to fully save humans.
Key Question: Why did Jesus become fully human?

- To serve as our High Priest. (Heb. 2:17a)
- To make propitiation for our sins. (Heb. 2:17b)
- To empathize with our condition. (Heb. 2:18)

APRIL 3

John 19:30 & Hebrews 10:10-14

Big Idea: The single sacrifice of Jesus secured our entire salvation.
Key Question: What did Jesus mean when he said, "It is finished"?

- His sacrifice is a once for all time sacrifice. (v. 10)
- His sacrifice secures victory forever. (vv. 11-13)
- His sacrifice secures perfection for those being saved. (v. 14)

APRIL 5

Luke 23:46 & Acts 13:26-39

Big Idea: The resurrection is the Father's vindication of the Son.
Key Question: What does the resurrection demonstrate?

- Salvation fulfilled. (vv. 26-33)
- A forever king revealed. (vv. 34-37)
- Forgiveness for anyone who believes. (vv. 38-39)