

# Life of Christ

A study of the life and teachings of Jesus

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE  
WEEK 4 | The Kingdom of Heaven  
*Week of October 4, 2020*



## Life Group Schedule

**PREP** Review the weekend service online. Read through each Scripture reference prayerfully. Invite the Holy Spirit to show you any correction you need to make around this week's topic. Be willing to be open, humble, and honest with your group about what He is showing you.

**10 MIN** Log In, chat, check on everybody! Remember, be a facilitator of conversation, not a preacher! Talk little, listen more, and have fun! Keep in mind we do this for community and for each of us to grow closer in our relationships with God.

**15 MIN** ICE BREAKER: Several ice breaker game suggestions can be located at [BIT.LY/NLCLIFEGROUP\\_ICEBREAKERS](https://bit.ly/NLCLIFEGROUP_ICEBREAKERS). Take your pick, and enjoy the game together!

**TRANSITION: SPEND SOME TIME IN WORSHIP & PRAYER**

**30-45 MIN | THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN**

**LUKE 13:18-21**

**Q1.** Jesus needed a minute to break away from the crowd and regroup. Are there times in your life when you need to break away?

- Sometimes we need to break away and listen to Jesus
- The Kingdom of Heaven = the rule of God or the reign of God
- The Lord's Prayer says "Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven"

**MATT 6**

## HOW DOES THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN WORK?

### 1. It Starts Small

**Q2.** How can God do a lot with a little? What are some examples in the Bible where God started small and then multiplied?

- The lie is to believe that if we HAD more we would DO more.
- We all know our smallness, inadequacies, but nobody has it all.
- Nothing is little in God's hands. The small things actually make a big difference. He can do what He needs with what we have.
- 12 ordinary men, fed 5,000 with 2 fish and 5 loaves of bread, the widow in the story of Elijah, Paul's ministry, etc.

**Q3.** Is there a time in your life when you took a small step for God and he multiplied it into something big? If yes, then share with the group.

**ZECH 4:10**

**LUKE 16:10**

- As you are faithful with the little God has asked you to do, He will bless you with more.

**MATT 17:20**

### 2. It Expands Invisibly

**Q4.** How is God moving and orchestrating things on this earth? What are you seeing with your spiritual eyes that others can not see with their physical eyes?

- So much of God's work happens beneath the surface. It goes unseen, unnoticed. That doesn't mean it is not there.

**2 COR 4:18**

- Sometimes it doesn't FEEL like God is moving but make no mistake, God is moving on this Earth!
- What you are doing for God IS making a difference.

**Q5.** In 1 Corinthians 15:58 it says to stand firm. What does it mean to stand firm? Share an example of how you stand firm.

- Fix your eyes on the eternal
- Fight the good fight of faith
- You just have to know that you know that God is working in it.

### 3. It Grows Naturally

**Q6. What does it mean to be a healthy person of God?**

- Anything that is healthy, grows
- Pure, humble, innocent, Christ-like
- The Kingdom of God naturally spreads from within the people of God and then it continues to grow.
- Love God, love people

**Q7. Why do people long for us to be real and authentic? What area of your life have you not been real?**

- We don't need to wear a mask in the way we live our lives.

**COL 1:6**

› understand the truth of the Good News

- God is using people who are raw and real and imperfect.

**Q8. What small step toward God do you need to make today? Ask God what he wants you to do. If you are struggling to come up with a small step, look at the question from day 17 of LOC where it asks: what practical habits can we create to alleviate suffering, help the poor, bring life and healing, show mercy, and share resources in all areas of our lives?**

- Ask God to give you eyes to see what He is doing on this Earth, in your lives. Give you spiritual sight.
- Ask God to show you areas of unhealth.
- Let us see heaven on earth. God wants to expand and multiply the Kingdom of Heaven.

**LUKE 17:20-21**

#### **TAKE PRAYER REQUESTS AND PRAY OVER NEEDS**

#### **CONFIRM OR SCHEDULE YOUR NEXT MEETING, WHETHER LIVE OR VIRTUAL**

**Leaders:** Please share your email address and cell numbers. Be available!

- For more ideas, check out [VIRTUAL LIFE GROUP PLAN](#).
- As Life Group leaders—the hands, feet and voice of Jesus—remember “CPR”:
  - › C – Check-In and Care for People at least weekly
  - › P – Pray with and for them often
  - › R – Remember Scripture. God’s Word is powerful!
- Group Participation Guideline Reminders:
  - › Do not share anything that will embarrass anyone, including your spouse.
  - › If called on you may pass on any questions you do not want to answer.
  - › Allow time for everyone to share; do not dominate the conversation.
  - › What is said in the group stays in the group. Use common sense and know when something shared is personal and should remain confidential.

**For Daily Prayer: The following linked resources can help strengthen our prayer lives**

- [Foundations, Session 4: “WHAT IS PRAYER?”](#)
- [THE LORD’S PRAYER PATTERN](#)
- [THE PRAYER OF JABEZ PRAYER PATTERN](#)
- [THE TRINITY PRAYER PATTERN](#)

