

Where Do You Start The Jesus Story?

The beginning:

3 questions that have to be asked:

Mark 1:1-5, Luke 3:1-18

❶ What is the **Good News**?

“*Jesus*”: The Good News was a **real person**.

“*Christ*”: The Good News is that we **have a Savior**.

“*Son of God*”: The Good News is that **God came to us**.

❷ How do I get this **Good News**?

This Good News comes by **repentance** and **confession**.

❸ When did my **Good News** begin?

The result of this Good News:

Mark 1:6-8

Our life will point to our **Good News**, not our **good self**.

Life Group Study Questions

For the week of January 13, 2019

Welcome to the Winter Quarter of Life Groups!

This week we kick off our Winter Life Group Quarter. Your first meeting will include a potluck dinner, time to get acquainted, as well as time to discuss your Life Group Covenant. 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. Have a great meeting as you come together to connect, encourage one another to grow and see how God might work!

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

- 1 At times we all need a place to chill out and relax. Where is the most relaxing place for you to be?
- 2 We all have a variety of highlights and memories from our elementary school years. Who was your favorite or craziest teacher in elementary school?
- 3 As we start 2019, what are one or two things you're looking forward to in the New Year?
- 4 Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

WHERE DID YOUR JESUS STORY START?

- 1 Whether you've been following Jesus for a long time or are still in process of making that decision, we can all point to at least a general time when we first heard the story of Jesus. Jot down as much as you can remember about who, when and where you first heard the Jesus story.
- 2 We are given the great opportunity to live out the Good News and point others toward Jesus. How do the following verses help us know what this looks like?

(New International Version)

1 Corinthians 9:19, 22-23 - ¹⁹ *Though I am free and belong to no one, I have made myself a slave to everyone, to win as many as possible.* ²² *To the weak I became weak, to win the weak. I have become all things to all people so that by all possible means I might save some.* ²³ *I do all this for the sake of the gospel, that I may share in its blessings.*

Matthew 5:9 - ⁹ *Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.*

John 13:35 - ³⁵ *By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”*

2 Timothy 2:15 - ¹⁵ *Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.*

Looking back at what you just wrote, what are some specific examples of how you can point others towards the Good News?

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 keep our focus on Jesus. Before you go over the Covenant in your group, take a moment and write down your responses to the two questions below:

What are you looking forward to in your Life Group this quarter?

Is there anything specific you want to focus on in your life to point others toward Jesus?

Mark Reading Challenge

- Read Mark in one sitting (takes about 1-2 hours)
- One chapter per day – read through Mark twice in a month
- Bible Apps w/ Text or Audio – Bible Gateway App or The Bible App by YouVersion

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:

(New International Version)

Romans 8:29 - ²⁹ For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

Hebrews 10:24-25 - ²⁴ And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, ²⁵ not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

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.

(New International Version)

John 15:9-13 - ⁹ "As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. ¹¹ I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹² My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.

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.

(New International Version)

Ephesians 4:11-16 - ¹¹ So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. ¹⁴ Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by the cunning and craftiness of people in their deceitful scheming. ¹⁵ Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. ¹⁶ From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.



Israel Study Tour - June 18-29, 2019

Join Dave Enns and Connor McFadden as they lead North Coast's next Study Tour that will bring the land and lessons of the Bible to Life.

- For more information and to register go to gtitours.org/trip/nc19
- For questions contact Connor McFadden cmcfadden@northcoastchurch.com



COMMUNITY SERVICE IMPACT

Community Service is dedicated to being the hands and feet of Jesus and showing God's love in tangible ways through service to the community. There are many options for you to serve. For ideas, check out NorthCoastCommunityService.org