

Life Group Notes

These notes are to serve you as you lead your group.

Please feel free to select the passages and only use the questions which are most relevant to your group and for the way you want to lead the session. (There are more questions here than you'll need)

- *Please choose (or adapt) the questions which you believe will bring about the most honest, faith-building and life changing conversations, and add others if you want to.*
- *The readings and questions develop from one section to the next. Please take time to move through the ones you want to use, giving time for discussion and sharing - ideally leading to a response to God's word.*

Life Group Notes

Theme: Following Jesus Week 1: Jesus

Sometimes we find that we need to come back to truths that are simple to understand, but not so easy to live out. In this new series we'll be looking at how to follow Jesus.

Introductory Questions

1. **What impacted or stood out to you from this week's sermon?**
2. **What about following Jesus do you find simple, but not easy?**
3. **What do you find most captivating about Jesus?**

Read Mark 8:27-30 The disciples' answer to the question 'who do you say I am?' was a defining moment in the gospels. Once Peter had declared 'You are the Messiah', the content of Jesus' teaching changed, and he began to move toward Jerusalem and the cross. Jesus' question, 'who do you say I am?' is still just as relevant and profound today.

4. Is Jesus King?
 - a. **Is Jesus your king, and what does this mean in practice for you?**
 - b. Ask Jesus to show you if there are areas of your life which act like 'rebel-held territories', where his reign is resisted. **How might our lives change if we relinquished all areas to Jesus' reign? How will we respond?**
5. Is Jesus enough?
 - a. **Is Jesus 'enough' for your salvation, or is there something left for you to do? Does your answer match how you tend to approach God?**
 - b. **How is Jesus 'enough' in all the circumstances of your life, including your future?**
 - c. **How can we live like Jesus is 'enough', and how can we encourage each other to do the same?**
6. Is Jesus central?
 - a. We heard on Sunday about basing our faith on something solid, like the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. **What are the truths that you come back to in your times of doubt?**
 - b. **Is your love for Jesus growing?**
 - c. **In the face of our tendency for our hearts to drift away from Jesus in stages, how can we ensure that Jesus remains at the centre?**
[To help us get started, on Sunday it was suggested that we can
(1) worship and contemplate Jesus regularly
(2) pray the Lord's prayer each day]

Reflection & Application

In Revelation 2:1-5 we read Jesus' words to repent and 'do what you did at first'. It may be appropriate for your group to take time to re-centre on Jesus again, being released from anything which has become a burden or a snare, and focussing on loving and following Jesus. Rather than being heavy, this is a delight, after all - Jesus is enough for us! It may be good to finish with thanksgiving for Jesus, and for who he is.