



# Discipleship Study Questions /Week 1/

For use from 2/26/23-3/4/23



# Life Everlasting

In the series, we look at the idea of eternal life- how we receive it, and how we live it in, beginning here and now. This series also helps us in the Lenten season as we prepare our hearts for the celebration of the resurrection!

## **Read the Scripture:**

*Individual:* Read the passage from two or three different translations.

*Group:* Have two different group members read the passage using different Bible translations.

## **Speak the Scripture:**

*Individual:* Recite the story aloud from memory (as best you can) or tell it to a friend or family member. The goal here is to get the essence of the passage in your heart.

*Group:* Have someone volunteer to recite the passage aloud in their own words, as best they can.

## **Understand the Scripture:**

*Individual or Group:* Use the Discovery Questions to help ensure you understand the passage.

## **Dig Deeper into the Scripture:**

*Individual:* Work through the Digging Deeper questions and pray about what God reveals to you through His word. Discuss with a Christian friend or family member if you choose.

*Group:* Work through the Digging Deeper questions as a group, celebrating the work God is already doing in each person's life, and encouraging each other to trust Him in the places that need growth.



# Small Group Guidelines

## **This is a Safe Group**

Confidentiality is key—what is said in the group stays in the group. Be aware how you are affecting the environment with your words, actions, and non-verbal communication. This needs to be a place where people feel comfortable opening up and sharing.

## **No Crosstalk**

Be considerate of others as they are sharing. No side conversations, phone time, texting etc.

## **Listen**

Let's value one another by listening to what is being shared. Allow a pause after someone shares to allow them to finish and others to consider what was said. Eye contact and body posture play key roles in creating a positive or negative group environment.

## **No Rescuing or Fixing**

We are not here to fix each other; Jesus does that part. Avoid the tendency to rescue when someone is struggling to get the words out or shares a struggle or conviction.

## **Use "I" Statements**

It's easy to talk about the issues of others, or respond with "we," "us," or "the church," but for us to grow as disciples and build relationships, we want to use "I" statements.

## **Don't Over-Talk**

We want to create time for all members of the group to participate in the discussion. Be careful not to always be the first responder or regularly give long responses.

## **Fight for Relationship**

It's not if conflict or hurt feelings will happen, but when. We commit to fight for relationship with each other. Go to the person and share your struggle or seek wise advice if you are not sure how to handle the conflict.



## Week 1 Discipleship Questions

**Background:** John writes this letter mostly as a way to shepherd the churches of the 1<sup>st</sup> century as they navigate false teachings that had infiltrated the church. He writes to combat these false ideas, like that Jesus never existed, that Jesus isn't God, and that Jesus doesn't provide eternal life.

**Read:** 1 John 1:1-4

### **Discovery Questions:**

What do we learn about God and His grace in this passage?

What do we learn about what it means to be a follower of Christ in this passage?

What do you think the Holy Spirit might be teaching you personally through this passage?

Is there anything God is leading you to do in light of this passage?

### **Digging Deeper:**

What are some of the false teachings that have impacted you or someone you know in a hurtful way?

How is Jesus being "the Word" intriguing or comforting to you?

When in your life have you felt the "koinonia" fellowship with God and with others? What was that like?

**Prayer:** Lord, I desire to have true fellowship with You and with Your people. Help me to overcome the false ideas that the enemy seeks to use to take me out. Let me instead embrace You, and Your eternal life. You are the eternal Word of Life. May my whole life be submitted to you. In Jesus name I pray, amen.

