

Life of Christ

A study of the life and teachings of Jesus

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

WEEK 13 | The Depth of Divine Mercy (Days 80-86)

SERMON FOCUS: Preparing for 2021



Life Group Schedule

- PREP** Review the weekend service online. Read each Scripture prayerfully. Invite the Holy Spirit to show you any correction you need to make around the topic. Be willing to be open, humble, and honest with your group about what He shows 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 | PREPARING FOR 2021

- Q1.** What has been the hardest part of this year for you and your family?
- Q2.** What have you learned this year that has helped your faith in Christ, not only to finish this year strong, but that you'll carry into 2021 as well?
- Q3.** What has impacted you the most so far from the Life of Christ study?
- Q4.** What change(s) have you made in your life based on the Life of Christ study?

THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND TAKE ACTIONS ARE FROM THIS WEEK'S LIFE OF CHRIST DAILY DEVOTIONALS.

1. Wednesday Day 80: The Last Week Of Jesus

LUKE 19:41-42 "As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes."

- Jesus does not criticize their failure to recognize Him, but rather their inability to recognize the things that make for peace, (love God; love neighbor).
- Judaism at the time was more focused on bringing about redemption even through the forcing of arms and the shedding of blood, than pursuing peace with God by loving our neighbor who is like ourselves.

Q5. What do you believe Jesus meant by, “How I wish today that you of all people would understand the way to peace. But now it is too late, and peace is hidden from your eyes”? What are the things that peacemakers need to know, in order to bring peace in our world today?

2. Thursday Day 81: The Things That Make For Peace

MATTHEW 5:9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.”

MATTHEW 5: 44-45 “But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and unrighteous.”

- Giving of charity to less fortunate people
- (Pillars of Jesus faith)
- HOW we do what we do is just as important as WHAT we do.

Q6. Are you broken for our world? What are you doing about it?

Q7. **Take Action:** What one action can you take this week and every week that spreads the love, joy, care, and charity of our heavenly Father in your community?

3. Friday Day 82: Temple Cleansing

MATTHEW 21:12-13 “Jesus entered the temple courts and drove out all who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money-changers and the benches of those selling doves. ‘It is written,’ he said to them, “‘My house will be called a house of prayer,’ but you are making it “a den of robbers.””

- When Jesus entered the temple, he was looking for true worship from a pure and obedient heart.
- Sometimes we drift into doing religion instead of engaging in true relationship.
- If we are to be the light of the world and point others to God, we must first be worshipers with true obedient hearts.

Q8. Take a moment to take the temperature of your heart for God. Are you cooling off due to repetition or warming up from a heart acting out of love for God? Explain.

Q9. **Take Action:** When you identify those cooler places, give those back to God. Repent and ask God to draw you close to Him so that you can experience fresh truth, freedom, and the grace of God, and subsequently, that others will also, through you. Talk to your group about them.

4. Saturday Day 83: Parable Of The Tenant Farmers

LUKE 20:9-19. “With this allegory, Jesus addresses the high priests and scribes who are twisting God’s Word for their own purposes.”

- When God asks us to do something that feels scary and we choose partial obedience, that’s really not obedience!
- Jesus will never ask us to do something He has not equipped us to do.
- We can choose to be simply, reverently responsive to what God asks of us.

Q10. What are you holding back from God? Where are you not being fully obedient to Jesus, to God’s Word, to who He’s called you to be?

Q11. **Take Action:** Choose today, right now, to hold your hands out to your kind Father, picturing yourself handing over whatever you have held back from Him. Let your group know what you believe the Lord is telling you is your next step. Don’t delay!

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](#)