

Life Church Sermon For: 2024-05-26-Handout

▼ Jesus & Wineskins

Rocklyn Clarke Sr. - Sunday May 26, 2024

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<http://www.LifeChurchBoston.org/>

▼ Opening Material

▼ Welcome!

- Praise the Lord!
- Welcome to another Life Church sermon!

▼ Transition

- Welcome to another Sunday at Life Church.
- The QR code links to our Visitor Landing Page.
- Use it to access our notes, share your contact information, and access our giving page.
- Questions? If you took the time to visit us, you deserve to get answers!
- Email: Questions@LifeChurchBoston.ORG
- We are continuing through Luke 5.

▼ Feeding on the Life of Jesus

- Are you “worded up”?
- Eat his flesh; Drink his blood - John 6:53-59; 2 Samuel 23:13-17
- Does the Word of Christ dwell in you richly (Colossians 3:16 - KJV)?
- ▼ What if you read a Gospel every month - a chapter a day?
 - The Gospel of Matthew in May (5/1 - 5/28)
 - The Gospel of Mark in June (6/1 - 6/16)
 - The Gospel of Luke in July (7/1 - 7/24)
 - The Gospel of John in August (8/1 - 8/21)
- ▼ For May this means:
 - Read Matthew 25 on May 25 (yesterday).
 - Read Matthew 26 on May 26 (today).
 - Read Matthew 27 on May 27 (tomorrow).
- As you read, write down any questions you have.
- ▼ Ask yourself the following questions:
 - What did this chapter teach me about how Jesus viewed himself, his mission, his relationship to God, and his relationship to others?
 - What would I like to better understand about this chapter?

- What did I find challenging about this chapter?
- What did I learn as I tried to apply this chapter to my life?
- Would an outsider who read this chapter recognize that I was trying to apply it to my life?

▼ Jesus explained his teaching to his disciples:

With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything. – Mark 4:33-34 (NIV)

- Did you grow up in church without getting your questions answered?
- Did you grow up apart from church wondering what all the fuss was about?
- Either way, don't be afraid to start from scratch or start over from scratch with someone who can walk you through the Bible so that you can understand God's Kingdom.
- Read and listen to God's Word in community!

▼ Thoughts From This Past Week

- ?

▼ Video

- [Veritas Forum: The biggest myth about Jesus | N.T. Wright at UT Austin](#) - YouTube (00:03:51)
- [Inside Edition: Capitol Attack Wasn't the 1st Violent Incident in Congress](#) - YouTube (00:07:15)

▼ Luke 4:14-21 (NIV) - The Lord's Spirit Is Upon Me

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.”

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

- Jesus returns to Galilee in the power of the Spirit.
- Jesus teaches in their synagogues, everyone praises him, news spreads.
- ▼ Jesus attends Synagogue on the Sabbath
 - He reads the Jubilee passage from Isaiah 61 and announces that it is now fulfilled.
 - The people are amazed at the gracious words (words of grace) he is speaking. They cannot reconcile his present ministry with his previous identity - Jesus from around the way.
 - This is the foundation for the rest of this gospel and thus for today's passage!

► Overview

• Luke 5:27-32 (NIV) - Jesus Calls Levi and Eats With Sinners

After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. "Follow me," Jesus said to him, and Levi got up, left everything and followed him.

Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?"

Jesus answered them, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."

▼ Luke 5:33-39 (NIV) - Jesus Questioned About Fasting

They said to him, "John's disciples often fast and pray, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours go on eating and drinking."

Jesus answered, "Can you make the friends of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; in those days they will fast."

He told them this parable: "No one tears a piece out of a new garment to patch an old one. Otherwise, they will have torn the new garment, and the patch from the new will not match the old. And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the new wine will burst the skins; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, new wine must be poured into new wineskins. And no one after drinking old wine wants the new, for they say, 'The old is better.'"

▼ Parallel / Related Passages

• Matthew 9:14-17 (NIV) - Jesus Questioned About Fasting

Then John's disciples came and asked him, "How is it that we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?"

Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom mourn while he is with them? The time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; then they will fast.

"No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch will pull away from the garment, making the tear worse. Neither do people pour new wine into old wineskins. If they do,

the skins will burst; the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved.”

- **Mark 2:18-22 (NIV) - Jesus Questioned About Fasting**

Now John’s disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people came and asked Jesus, “How is it that John’s disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?”

Jesus answered, “How can the guests of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them, and on that day they will fast.

“No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. Otherwise, the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse. And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins.”

- ▼ **Jesus & Wineskins**

- ▼ **Narrative**

- Jesus is feasting with Levi (Matthew) and his tax collector friends.
- ▼ The Pharisees and teachers of the law confront Jesus:
 - John’s disciples often fast and pray as do the disciples of the Pharisees.
 - Jesus’ disciples go on eating and drinking.
 - Fasting was a way of lamenting the losses of the past and looking forward to God’s coming mercy.
- ▼ Jesus responds:
 - His ministry is like a wedding:
 - Jesus is the bridegroom.
 - The disciples are the friends of the bridegroom (i.e. sons of the bride-chamber)
 - Fasting doesn’t fit the occasion.
- ▼ New moves of God require new systems:
 - You shouldn’t mix shrunk and un-shrunk cloth.
 - You shouldn’t mix new wine with old wineskins.

- ▼ **Lessons**

- ▼ Note how Jesus sees himself:
 - What God is doing is like a wedding.
 - Jesus is the bride-groom.
 - Jesus doesn’t see himself merely as a teacher!
 - Do other people we admire describe themselves in this way?
- ▼ Engaging with what God is doing now will affect:
 - How we spend our time.

- The people with whom we spend our time.
- How we use our homes.
- What skills we choose to develop.
- How we take responsibility for ministry.

▼ Pursuing Jesus' Agenda

▼ Jesus' Agenda:

- Proclaim the good news throughout the region.
- ▼ Components of Jesus' proclamation in Luke 4:14-21:
 - Good news to the poor.
 - Freedom for the prisoners.
 - Recovery of sight for the blind.
 - Set the oppressed free.
 - Proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

▼ Make disciples

- Matthew 28:16-20

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

▼ When the disciples were freshly filled with the Holy Spirit, how did they execute Jesus' vision?

- Acts 2:42-47 (NIV) - The Fellowship of the Believers

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

▼ We need fully functioning Basic Christian Communities - Life Groups

- 1 Corinthians 14:26 (NIV)

What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up.

▼ A fully functioning life group:

- Meets weekly.
- Meets away from the church service.

- Meets for 90 minutes.
- Everyone is able to share.
- ▼ When our life groups are functioning properly
 - They will become extensions of Jesus' body.
 - They will be channels of healing and deliverance.
 - They will be engines of evangelism and discipleship.
- ▼ **Making Disciples**
 - **Matthew 28:16-20**

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, **"All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."**
 - ▼ **Key Questions**
 - "What is a disciple and how will I know when I've made one?"
 - "How do I make a disciple?"
 - "How long does it take to make a disciple?"
 - A disciple is a convert who is learning by following Jesus with a goal of becoming like Jesus.
 - We make disciples by walking converts through the Gospel of Matthew.
 - It takes roughly 3 years to make a disciple who no longer needs us.
- ▼ **Disciple-making ingredients**
 - ▼ **Personal Preparation**
 - Prayer & spiritual warfare
 - Being filled with the Holy Spirit
 - Reading and/or listening to the Bible
 - Belonging to a safe, healthy, and effective life group
 - A personal testimony
 - ▼ **Life Group Preparation**
 - Prayer & spiritual warfare
 - Reading and/or listening to the Bible
 - Identify accessible pools of unchurched people
 - Practical ways to start spiritual conversations
 - Activities welcoming to unchurched people

▼ Harvest Preparation

- Prayer & spiritual warfare
- Leading someone to Christ
- Getting a believer filled with the Holy Spirit
- Discipling another believer

▼ Get Trained

▼ How to proceed - Are you . . .

- Unsure that you actually are a Christian?
- A new Christian or someone who has decided to “start over” from scratch?
- Connected to a new Christian or someone who has decided to “start over” from scratch?
- A Christian who wants to begin making disciples?
- A Christian who is experienced in making disciples who make disciples?
- A [Life Group Leader](#)?
- Now that you’ve read this far your next step is to visit, call, text, or email someone! Don’t settle for passively “lurking” on this web site. If you can’t figure out which of the above categories applies to you, ask one of the pastors for help.

▼ Prayer & spiritual warfare

- Your life group leaders will help you develop in this area.
- Your life group must develop a prayer focus!
- For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).

▼ Safe, healthy, and effective life groups

- We want to train you to promote safe, healthy, and effective life groups and we want you to train others to do the same.
- Talk to your life group leaders about how you can help them build up your life group.
- For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).

▼ A personal testimony

- Jesus has called us to be his witnesses. In order to be a witness, you need to be prepared to let people know what you’ve experienced with Jesus.
- Write up your personal testimony and practice sharing it with your life group.
- For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).

▼ An accessible pool of unchurched people

- If you’re going to make disciples, you’re going to have to spend time with people who don’t yet follow Jesus. Most people will be most effective in winning people with

whom they've developed a relationship. Relationships develop best when you have frequent opportunities to interact.

- Work with your life group as a team to identify the unchurched people that you can reach.
- For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).
- ▼ A practical way of starting spiritual conversations
 - We need to be able to overcome our reluctance to start spiritual conversations with people.
 - For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).
- ▼ Activities welcoming to unchurched people
 - We need activities that can promote deepening relationships between followers of Jesus and unchurched people. Our Sunday services are designed primarily to build up followers of Jesus – not impart Gospel truth to non-followers. We need to be able to conduct activities that are more suitable for this type of relationship building. Ideally these activities should be frequent enough to support the development of friendships. This means that they should be "turn-key". The planning and preparation should be simple enough that the events can be launched weekly or at least monthly.
 - ▼ These activities all provide some combination of relationship building, community generation, and exploration of Christianity, but they will often have a primary emphasis:
 - ▼ Building Relationships
 - Games Night
 - Change the World Night
 - ▼ Generating Community
 - Life Group Meetings
 - ▼ Exploring the Christianity
 - Alpha Classes
 - You will work with your life group as a team to plan and carry out outreach activities.
 - For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).
- ▼ Leading someone to Christ
 - Our goal, as we engage in evangelism, is for the person we've befriended to actually become a follower of Jesus. Once you've established that the person is ready to make that decision you need to guide them into that commitment.
 - For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).
- ▼ Helping a believer to be filled with the Holy Spirit

- Jesus promised his disciples that they would receive power to be his witnesses after the Holy Spirit came upon them (Acts 1:8). We want every believer to experience this power so that they can effectively represent the Lord to the world around them.
- For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).
- ▼ Discipling another believer
 - ▼ The most developed component of our discipleship training is:
 - [Focus On the Message](#)
 - For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).
- ▼ **Life Group**
 - ▼ **Welcome (5 - 10 minutes)**
 - [Icebreaker](#)
 - **Worship (optional for life group meetings during Sunday service)**
 - ▼ **Word - Discussion Questions**

For each question, spend 1 – 2 minutes in silence before you begin to respond.

 - How does Jesus' self-image compare with that of other leaders we admire?
 - What ways of "doing church" aren't producing disciples or community?
 - What progress are you making with our Life Church Training Plan?
 - How are you progressing at making your life group fully functional?
 - ▼ **Witness**

How will we work together as a team to be "good news" to the people around us?

 - Have your missing members been called or visited this past week?
 - How can you help your life group leaders build up your group this week?
 - Is there someone that you need to talk to about Jesus this week?



Jesus & Wineskins

Sunday May 26, 2024



Welcome!



Visitor Page

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Questions? If you took the time to visit us, you deserve to get answers!

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We are continuing through Luke 5.



Feeding on the Life of Jesus (1 of 4)



Are you “worded up”?

Eat his flesh; Drink his blood – John 6:53-59; 2 Samuel 23:13-17

Does the Word of Christ dwell in you richly (Colossians 3:16 - KJV)?

What if you read a Gospel every month - a chapter a day?

- The Gospel of Matthew in May (5/1 - 5/28)
- The Gospel of Mark in June (6/1 – 6/16)
- The Gospel of Luke in July (7/1 – 7/24)
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Feeding on the Life of Jesus (2 of 4)



For May this means:

- Read Matthew 25 on May 25 (yesterday).
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- etc.



Feeding on the Life of Jesus (3 of 4)



As you read, write down any questions you have.

Ask yourself the following questions:

- What did this chapter teach me about how Jesus viewed himself, his mission, his relationship to God, and his relationship to others?
- What would I like to better understand about this chapter?
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Feeding on the Life of Jesus (4 of 4)

Jesus explained his teaching to his disciples:

With many similar parables Jesus spoke the word to them, as much as they could understand. He did not say anything to them without using a parable. But when he was alone with his own disciples, he explained everything. – Mark 4:33-34 (NIV)

- Did you grow up in church without getting your questions answered?
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Thoughts From This Past Week



- ?



Biggest Myth About Jesus





Congressional Violence





Luke 4:14-21 NIV



Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

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The Lord's Spirit Is Upon Me



- Jesus returns to Galilee in the power of the Spirit.
- Jesus teaches in their synagogues, everyone praises him, news spreads.
- Jesus attends Synagogue on the Sabbath
 - He reads the Jubilee passage from Isaiah 61 and announces that it is now fulfilled.
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- This is the foundation for the rest of this gospel and thus for today's passage!

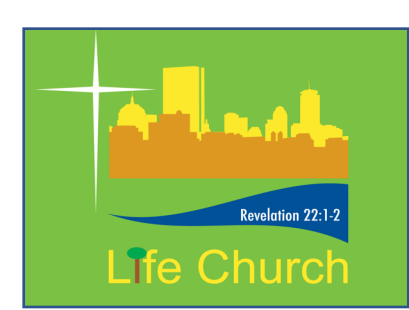


Luke 5:27-32 NIV – Jesus Calls Levi

After this, Jesus went out and saw a tax collector by the name of Levi sitting at his tax booth. **“Follow me,”** Jesus said to him, and Levi got up, left everything and followed him.

Then Levi held a great banquet for Jesus at his house, and a large crowd of tax collectors and others were eating with them. But the Pharisees and the teachers of the law who belonged to their sect complained to his disciples, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”

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Luke 5:33-39 NIV – Jesus & Wineskins



They said to him, “John’s disciples often fast and pray, and so do the disciples of the Pharisees, but yours go on eating and drinking.”

Jesus answered, “Can you make the friends of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them; in those days they will fast.”

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Matthew 9:14-17 (NIV)

Then John’s disciples came and asked him, “How is it that we and the Pharisees fast often, but your disciples do not fast?”

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Mark 2:18-22 (NIV)



Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people came and asked Jesus, "How is it that John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?"

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Jesus & Wineskins (1 of 4)

Narrative

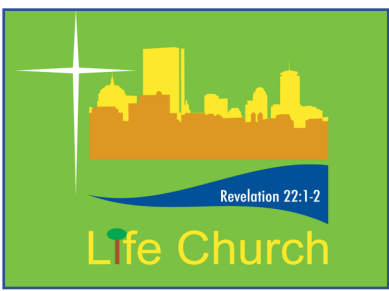
- Jesus is feasting with Levi (Matthew) and his tax collector friends.
- The Pharisees and teachers of the law confront Jesus:
 - John's disciples often fast and pray as do the disciples of the Pharisees.
 - Jesus' disciples go on eating and drinking.
 - Fasting was a way of lamenting the losses of the past and looking forward to God's coming mercy.



Jesus & Wineskins (2 of 4)

Narrative (continued)

- Jesus responds:
 - His ministry is like a wedding:
 - Jesus is the bridegroom.
 - The disciples are the friends of the bridegroom (i.e. sons of the bride-chamber).
 - Fasting doesn't fit the occasion.
- New moves of God require new systems:
 - You shouldn't mix shrunk and un-shrunk cloth.
 - You shouldn't mix new wine with old wineskins.



Jesus & Wineskins (3 of 4)

Lessons

- Note how Jesus sees himself:
- What God is doing is like a wedding.
- Jesus is the bride-groom.
- Jesus doesn't see himself merely as a teacher!
- Do other people we admire describe themselves in this way?



Jesus & Wineskins (4 of 4)

Engaging with what God is doing now will affect:

- How we spend our time.
- The people with whom we spend our time.
- How we use our homes.
- What skills we choose to develop.
- How we take responsibility for ministry.



Pursuing Jesus' Agenda (1 of 3)

Jesus' Agenda:

- Proclaim the good news throughout the region.
- Components of Jesus' proclamation in Luke 4:14-21:
 - Good news to the poor.
 - Freedom for the prisoners.
 - Recovery of sight for the blind.
 - Set the oppressed free.
 - Proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.
- Make disciples – Matthew 28:16-20



Matthew 28:16-20



Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, **“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”**



Pursuing Jesus' Agenda (2 of 3)

When the disciples were freshly filled with the Holy Spirit, how did they execute Jesus' vision?

- Acts 2:42-47 (NIV) - The Fellowship of the Believers



Acts 2:42-47 NIV



They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. **They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts,** praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.



Pursuing Jesus' Agenda (3 of 3)

We need fully functioning Basic Christian Communities - Life Groups

What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up. 1
Corinthians 14:26 (NIV)

- A fully functioning life group:
 - Meets weekly.
 - Meets away from the church service.
 - Meets for 90 minutes.
 - Everyone is able to share.
- When our life groups are functioning properly
 - They will become extensions of Jesus' body.
 - They will be channels of healing and deliverance.
 - They will be engines of evangelism and discipleship.



Make Disciples As A Lifestyle (1 of 4)

Making Disciples

- Key Questions
 - “What is a disciple and how will I know when I’ve made one?”
 - “How do I make a disciple?”
 - “How long does it take to make a disciple?”
- A disciple is a convert who is learning by following Jesus with a goal of becoming like Jesus.
- We make disciples by walking converts through the Gospel of Matthew.
- It takes roughly 3 years to make a disciple who no longer needs us.



Make Disciples As A Lifestyle (2 of 4)



Disciple-Making Ingredients:

Personal Preparation

- Prayer & spiritual warfare
- Being filled with the Holy Spirit
- Reading and/or listening to the Bible
- Belonging to a safe, healthy, and effective life group
- A personal testimony



Make Disciples As A Lifestyle (3 of 4)



Disciple-Making Ingredients (continued):

Life Group Preparation

- Prayer & spiritual warfare
- Reading and/or listening to the Bible
- Identify accessible pools of unchurched people
- Practical ways to start spiritual conversations
- Activities welcoming to unchurched people



Make Disciples As A Lifestyle (4 of 4)

Disciple-Making Ingredients (continued):

Harvest Preparation

- Prayer & spiritual warfare
- Leading someone to Christ
- Getting a believer filled with the Holy Spirit
- Discipling another believer



Get Trained (1 of 7)



How to proceed - Are you . . .

- Unsure that you actually are a Christian?
- A new Christian or someone who has decided to “start over” from scratch?
- Connected to a new Christian or someone who has decided to “start over” from scratch?
- A Christian who wants to begin making disciples?
- A Christian who is experienced in making disciples who make disciples?
- A [Life Group Leader](#)?

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Get Trained (2 of 7)

Prayer & spiritual warfare

- Your life group leaders will help you develop in this area.
- Your life group must develop a prayer focus!
- For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).

Safe, healthy, and effective life groups

- We want to train you to promote safe, healthy, and effective life groups and we want you to train others to do the same.
- Talk to your life group leaders about how you can help them build up your life group.
- For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).



Get Trained (3 of 7)

A personal testimony

- Jesus has called us to be his witnesses. In order to be a witness, you need to be prepared to let people know what you've experienced with Jesus.
- Write up your personal testimony and practice sharing it with your life group.
- For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).

An accessible pool of unchurched people

- If you're going to make disciples, you're going to have to spend time with people who don't yet follow Jesus. Most people will be most effective in winning people with whom they've developed a relationship. Relationships develop best when you have frequent opportunities to interact.
- Work with your life group as a team to identify the unchurched people that you can reach.
- For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).



Get Trained (4 of 7)

A practical way of starting spiritual conversations

- We need to be able to overcome our reluctance to start spiritual conversations with people.
- For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).



Get Trained (5 of 7)

Activities welcoming to unchurched people

- We need activities that can promote deepening relationships between followers of Jesus and unchurched people. Our Sunday services are designed primarily to build up followers of Jesus – not impart Gospel truth to non-followers. We need to be able to conduct activities that are more suitable for this type of relationship building. Ideally these activities should be frequent enough to support the development of friendships. This means that they should be "turn-key". The planning and preparation should be simple enough that the events can be launched weekly or at least monthly.



Get Trained (6 of 7)



Activities welcoming to unchurched people (continued)

- These activities all provide some combination of relationship building, community generation, and exploration of Christianity, but they will often have a primary emphasis:
- Building Relationships
 - Games Night
 - Change the World Night
- Generating Community
 - Life Group Meetings
- Exploring the Christianity
 - Alpha Classes
- You will work with your life group as a team to plan and carry out outreach activities.
- For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).



Get Trained (7 of 7)



Leading someone to Christ

- Our goal, as we engage in evangelism, is for the person we've befriended to actually become a follower of Jesus. Once you've established that the person is ready to make that decision you need to guide them into that commitment.
- For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).

Helping a believer to be filled with the Holy Spirit

- Jesus promised his disciples that they would receive power to be his witnesses after the Holy Spirit came upon them (Acts 1:8). We want every believer to experience this power so that they can effectively represent the Lord to the world around them.

Discipling another believer

- The most developed component of our discipleship training is: [Focus On the Message](#)
- For more help in this area check out our [Training Page](#).



Life Groups

Word - Spend 1 – 2 minutes in silence before you begin each question.

- How does Jesus' self-image compare with that of other leaders we admire?
- What ways of “doing church” aren't producing disciples or community?
- What progress are you making with our Life Church Training Plan?
- How are you progressing at making your life group fully functional?

Witness (How we work as a team to be "good news" to others)

- Have your missing members been called or visited this past week?
- How can you help your life group leaders build up your group this week?
- Is there someone that you need to talk to about Jesus this week?



Announcements



Visitor Page

- Sunday Service May 26, 2024
- Men's Bible Study Wed (5/29) 7pm - 8:30pm - via Zoom
- Alpha Class Thu (5/30) 6pm Awaken City Church
- Sunday Service (Communion) June 2, 2024
- Men's Bible Study Wed (6/5) 7pm - 8:30pm - via Zoom
- Alpha Class Thu (6/6) 6pm Awaken City Church
- Sunday Service June 9, 2024
- Men's Bible Study Wed (6/12) 7pm - 8:30pm - via Zoom
- Alpha Class Thu (6/13) 6pm Awaken City Church
- Sunday Service June 16, 2024



Life Groups

Word - Spend 1 – 2 minutes in silence before you begin each question.

- How does Jesus' self-image compare with that of other leaders we admire?
- What ways of “doing church” aren't producing disciples or community?
- What progress are you making with our Life Church Training Plan?
- How are you progressing at making your life group fully functional?

Witness (How we work as a team to be "good news" to others)

- Have your missing members been called or visited this past week?
- How can you help your life group leaders build up your group this week?
- Is there someone that you need to talk to about Jesus this week?