

Living Beyond Myself

Life Group Leaders Guide

Objective

This guide contains the information and questions you will need to lead a life group study during our current sermon series. Our aim is to spark Spirit-led, Bible-centered conversations that anyone can participate in regardless of how biblically literate they may or may not be. **The win** that we want you to experience is when your group members **connect** more closely with each other and with God so that they are encouraged to move forward in living out their faith.

Directions

The *Purpose* and *Move* sections are for the leader to read to the group to provide clarity. **Do not feel pressured to cover all the questions.** Decide which ones may work best for your group. You will see brief notes interspersed between groups of questions to help give the group context for their answers. The *Notes and Commentary* section (when included) is optional reading for the leader to get background information and better understanding of the passages before leading the discussion.

Series Overview

God's answer to the needs in our world is the local church. When we live beyond ourselves, we will provide relief to those in need, guide them towards steps of restoration, and ultimately lead them to spiritual renewal in Christ. In doing so, we have the capacity to unleash the exponential power of doing good. The question is, will you settle at knowledge of the needs around us, or will you jump in and partner in the mission of Jesus.

Living Beyond Myself Series Schedule

Week	Sermon Date	Topic of Sermon & Life Group
1	Nov. 18	The Power of Doing Good
2	Nov. 25	Just Jump In

The Point Church Life Group Curriculum

Living Beyond Myself - Power of Doing Good

The Big Idea

When we live beyond ourselves we unleash the power of doing good.

Flow of Study

Icebreaker: Tell a story about a time that someone did something kind for you that meant a lot to you.

Move #1: Let's begin by unpacking any thoughts that you took away from this weekend's sermon.

1. Did anything stand out to you from the message this weekend? Any insights or questions?
2. Did you feel convicted to act on something from the message?

Move #2: Now let's take a few minutes to break down the passage from this week so we can discuss some of the details.

Read Luke 5:12-16 (NIV)

12 While Jesus was in one of the towns, a man came along who was covered with leprosy. When he saw Jesus, he fell with his face to the ground and begged him, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." 13 Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" And immediately the leprosy left him. 14 Then Jesus ordered him, "Don't tell anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them." 15 Yet the news about him spread all the more, so that crowds of people came to hear him and to be healed of their sicknesses.

3. In this text, how do we see Jesus living beyond himself? What does that look like for us?
4. Here Jesus heals a leper who has been an outcast from society. Who are people that you would consider outcasts in our society?
5. What are some things that keep people from serving or helping those who are marginalized?
6. When you are in need of help, what person do you typically go to first? What about them makes them feel approachable?

Note: The fact that Jesus made the man clean made it possible for him to go to the temple and worship. Prior to this, he would not have been allowed in the temple because he was unclean.

7. Have you ever seen how doing good for a person freed them up or motivated them to turn their eyes to God? What did that look like?

Move #3: The text we just looked at shows Jesus' example of doing good for someone. Let's look at a passage of scripture that encourages us to follow his example and gives a little more detail of just how radical it was for Jesus to do the things that he did.

Read Philippians 2:3-8 (NIV)

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, 4 not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

7 rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

8 And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!

8. Even though Jesus was God, and therefore stands above all people, that did not keep him from serving others. How does pride sometimes get in our way of serving others?
9. Why is a true posture of humility important while doing good for others?
10. How can we make sure we have the right motives when doing good for others?
11. As Jesus changed everything for us by living beyond himself, how can we carry on the chain reaction of good that he began?
12. There are opportunities to serve and help people all around us. What are some needs that you have observed in our community or people that you know? How can our group help?

Prayer: End your study with a time of praying with and for each other. Take requests, but be sure to pray also about what you've discussed today.

Next Steps:

- Commit together as a group to participate in the Big Serve weekend!
- Brainstorm as a group another way that you could do good for someone and make plans to do it. It could be anything that the Lord lays on your heart and you may have good ideas from discussing question 12. If you are struggling to think of something, some examples could be:
 - Writing notes to someone who is going through a hard time or planning to visit them.
 - Doing good for people in a hospital, nursing home, or prison.