

Vision Sunday 2019

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

Each year we meet as one church to hear from our lead pastor where he and our Board of Elders believes God is pointing us as a church over the next year.

Vision Sunday 2019 Series Schedule

Week	Sermon Date	Topic
1	10/13/19	Who's Your One?

The Point Church Life Group Curriculum

Who's Your One?

The Big Idea

Our heart's passion should be introducing others to Jesus, one life at a time.

Flow of Study

Icebreaker: Do you prefer multi-tasking, or do you do better when you focus on one priority at a time?

Move #1: Let's begin the discussion with some questions unpacking the sermon from Vision Sunday.

1. What stood out most to you from the message about how we must remain passionate about pointing one more person to Jesus?
2. How can we do that even in our Life Group?

Move #2: Let's look at a sequence of events early in John's gospel in which we see people finding and then pointing others to Jesus.

Read John 1:35-49 (NIV)

35 The next day John was there again with two of his disciples. 36 When he saw Jesus passing by, he said, "Look, the Lamb of God!" 37 When the two disciples heard him say this, they followed Jesus. 38 Turning around, Jesus saw them following and asked, "What do you want?" They said, "Rabbi" (which means "Teacher"), "where are you staying?" 39 "Come," he replied, "and you will see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they spent that day with him. It was about four in the afternoon.

40 Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, was one of the two who heard what John had said and who had followed Jesus. 41 The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which, when translated, is Peter).

43 The next day Jesus decided to leave for Galilee. Finding Philip, he said to him, "Follow me." 44 Philip, like Andrew and Peter, was from the town of Bethsaida. 45 Philip found Nathanael and told him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law, and about whom the prophets also wrote—Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." 46 "Nazareth! Can anything good come from there?" Nathanael asked. "Come and see," said Philip.

47 When Jesus saw Nathanael approaching, he said of him, "Here truly is an Israelite in whom there is no deceit." 48 "How do you know me?" Nathanael asked. Jesus answered, "I saw you while you were still under the fig tree before Philip called you." 49 Then Nathanael declared, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel."

3. How did Simon Peter, one of the greatest heroes of the Christian faith, come to know Jesus?

4. How did Andrew first come to know Jesus? Verse 41 says, “the first thing Andrew did” was to introduce his brother to Jesus. Why might he have done that so quickly?
5. How did Nathanael find out about Jesus? What happened after he encountered him?
6. What is the invitation that is extended twice in this text (verses 39 & 46)? What is the significance of that invitation? What are some ways that we can extend that same invitation to someone?

Note: We see in this text that each person was introduced to Jesus by someone else. Sometimes God reveals himself to people directly, but usually it happens through another person. And it can happen from the simplest invitation.

7. Who introduced you to Jesus, and how do you feel about them doing that?
8. Does anyone have a story to share about a person that you invited to encounter Jesus?

Move #3: Next let’s look at a text from the Apostle Paul about how we can carry out this mission of pointing someone to Jesus.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:13-20 (NIV)

13 If we are “out of our mind,” as some say, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. 14 For Christ’s love compels us, because we are convinced that one died for all, and therefore all died. 15 And he died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for him who died for them and was raised again.

16 So from now on we regard no one from a worldly point of view. Though we once regarded Christ in this way, we do so no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! 18 All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: 19 that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And he has committed to us the message of reconciliation. 20 We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making his appeal through us. We implore you on Christ’s behalf: Be reconciled to God.

9. Do you ever worry, like Paul, that if you talk to someone about Jesus they will think you’re weird or out of your mind? How could Paul’s response (verse 13) help you overcome this worry?
10. What is the one thing that should ultimately motivate us to share our faith with others (verse 14)?
11. How must we overcome our own propensity to pre-judge who will be open and interested in Jesus and who won’t (verse 16)?
12. If you’ve been reconciled to God by faith in Jesus, what is the life mission he has given you (verse 18, 20)? How does this partnership between God and us work?

Next Steps: The following are things you could challenge your members to do in order to take what you studied in this curriculum farther.

1. Who do you know that you could introduce to Jesus? Who is your “one”?

2. Make it your aim to BLESS that person--Begin with prayer, Listen well, Eat with them, Serve them, Share how Jesus has impacted you.
3. Invite them to church or Life Group!

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.

Notes and Commentary

The following are pieces of commentary, facts, and links based on the passages of this study in order. Use them to help supplement your group time or for your personal preparation.

On 2 Corinthians 5:

Specifically, Christ's love compels Paul for two reasons. (1) He is convinced that Christ's vicarious death (i.e., "one died for all") is the true definition of what it means to be "right-minded" about life. In view of the coming judgment, Christ, moved by his love, considered the needs of others for reconciliation more important than his own glory and position with the Father. As a result, he died "for all" in order to save them (5:14b). For the same reason, and compelled by Christ's love, Paul considers the needs of God's people more important than his own, so that he does whatever it takes to persuade them of his legitimacy as "Christ's ambassador" (cf. 5:20–6:2).

This, then, is the gospel in a nutshell: (1) The basis of the gospel is Christ's love for his people (not his people's love for Christ or any other human characteristic, act, or distinctive); (2) as a result, Christ died for them (to atone for their sin and to free them from its power); (3) therefore, they too died (to their old way of life under the power of sin); (4) the consequence of Christ's death for them and their death in Christ is a new life lived out for others. (Scott J. Hafemann, *NIV Application Commentary: 2 Corinthians*)