



LIFELINE Discussion Guide

Week of October 5, 2026

Welcome to Life Groups! We're excited to see what God will do in this new season of Life Groups as we grow DEEPER in the truth of God's Word and CLOSER in the community of believers. If this is your first group meeting of the season, get to know each other in this fun way: **What was the #1 Pop Song on the day you were born? Have each person name their song.** (Yes, you will probably need to use Google on your phone)

1. **Read Colossians 1:1-8.** Paul begins by thanking God for the Colossians' "faith in Christ Jesus." According to Sunday's message, why is sincere faith in Jesus the foundational evidence of true Christianity? What does genuine faith in Christ actually look like beyond simply identifying as a Christian?
2. **Paul connects faith in Christ with "love for all the saints" (v. 4).** Why do you think genuine faith in Jesus should naturally produce love for other believers? What are some practical ways we can tell whether our love for fellow Christians is genuine rather than merely social friendliness?
3. **Think honestly about your relationships within the church.** Are there particular Christians you find difficult to love, tolerate, or understand? What would it look like to view them as members of your spiritual family and intentionally love them as Christ has loved you?
4. **Read Colossians 1:5.** Paul describes the Colossians' hope as something "laid up...in heaven." How is biblical hope different from the way we commonly use the word "hope" today? How should confidence in our future with Christ affect the way we respond to present difficulties?
5. **Pastor Ryan mentioned hardships such as financial difficulty, marriage struggles, wayward children, job uncertainty, and fractured friendships.** Which kinds of circumstances most easily cause you to lose sight of your heavenly hope? What specific truth about Christ or heaven could help you respond differently the next time you face that situation?
6. **Read Colossians 1:6.** Paul says the gospel is "bringing forth fruit." What does this teach us about the relationship between receiving the gospel and experiencing transformation? What kinds of things should begin to change when God's grace is genuinely at work in a person's life?
7. **Take a personal inventory:** Where have you seen evidence of spiritual transformation in your life since coming to Christ— perhaps in your attitudes, words, priorities, relationships, desires, or choices? Is there an area where you know Jesus still needs to bring greater change?
8. **The sermon's central challenge was "Jesus Over Everything."** If someone observed your ordinary life for one week—your calendar, conversations, relationships, finances, entertainment, work, and priorities—what evidence would they see that Jesus truly is "over everything"? **What is one specific area you need to surrender more fully to Christ this week?**

The true Christian shows everyday evidences of a transformed life.