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**Next Week's Life Group:** Follow Me: To The Trial

**Next Week's Story:** Peter's Denial (Matthew 26, Mark 14, Luke 22, John 18)

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### **Our Church's Definition of a Biblical Disciple of Jesus**

A person who is committed to *following, being changed by,* and *on mission* with Jesus (taken from Matthew 4:19).

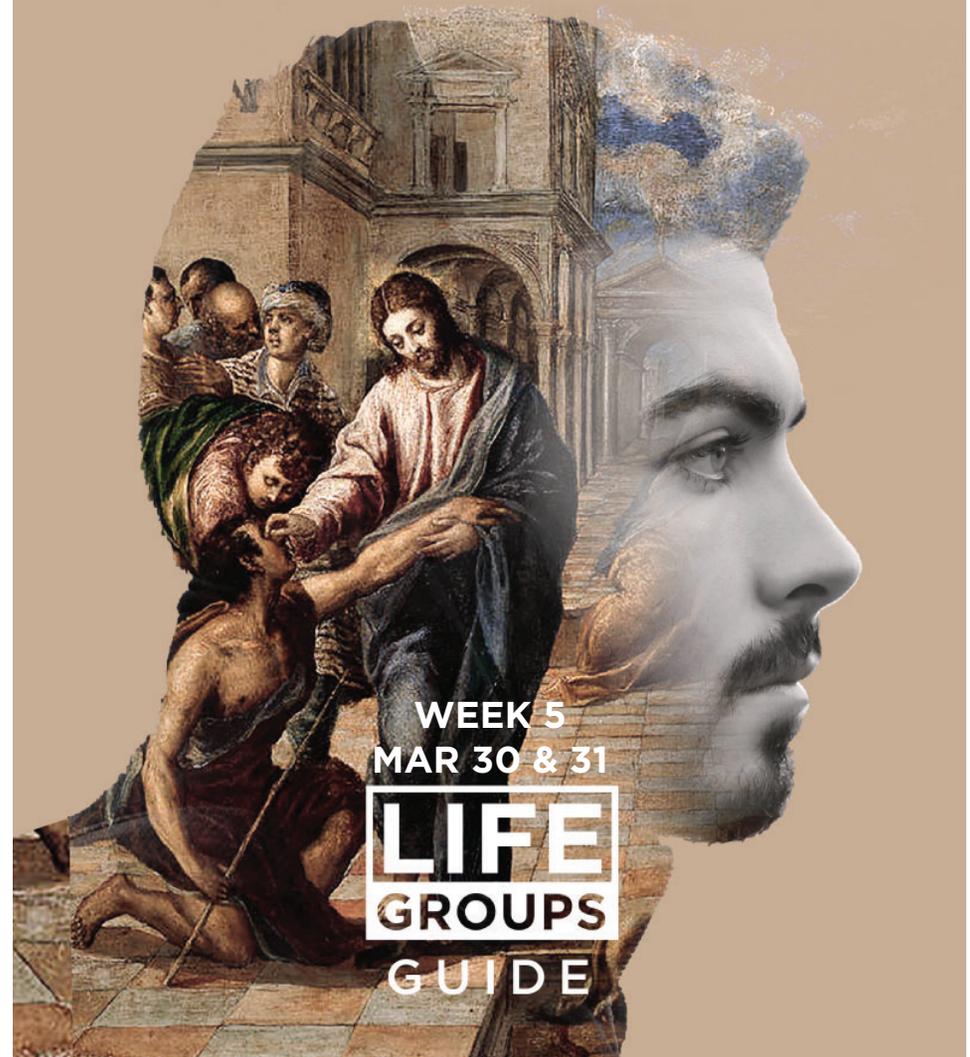
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### **The Purpose of Life Groups**

Life Groups are where we connect with God and with others through relationships - growing in spiritual maturity as biblical disciples of Jesus and inspiring a culture of discipleship as we do life together. Life Groups are loving, safe, and interactive places where people can be authentic and vulnerable as they explore, experience, serve, and grow in relationship with Jesus, the Word, and others. Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 2:42-47; Hebrews 3:12-13, 10:23-25; 1 Thessalonians 5:11.

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# follow me



## FOLLOW ME

*And taking the twelve, he said to them, "See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished."*

Luke 18:31

### GETTING STARTED

Share about a big disappointment you have experienced. How did it make you feel? How did you respond to it?

### STORY BACKGROUND

Following the Passover meal with His disciples in an upper room in Jerusalem, Jesus led them to the Garden of Gethsemane on the Mount of Olives. This small mountain was the site of many significant events in history. King David escaped via the Mount of Olives when Absalom waged a coup (2 Samuel 15:30). Solomon built an altar to the Moabite god Chemosh (1 Kings 11:7). In Ezekiel 11 it is prophesied that the Glory of God would depart Jerusalem and rest over the Mount of Olives.

And this place is where Jesus frequented, both with his disciples and alone (Luke 21:37, 22:39). One of the most significant teachings of Christ about the future of the Church and His Kingdom took place on the Mount of Olives (Matthew 24 & 25). Jesus departed into heaven from the Mount of Olives, and it will be to this place where he will return (Luke 24:50-52, Acts 1:12, Zechariah 14:4).

While in the garden, Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss. In ancient Israel a kiss demonstrated a personal connection to another. It was a mark of affection or sentiment. If a kiss was given to a god, it was a display of worship (1 Kings 19:18). Being a culturally significant gesture, the kiss could be used as a sign of affection or leveraged for personal gains. In this instance, neither ended up being true - it wasn't a sign of affection by Judas toward Jesus, and Judas thought he had gained much, but in the end lost everything.

## TO THE GARDEN



**STORY:** Luke 22:39-53

### MEMORY VERSE:

Philippians 4:6-7 - *do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*



**Head Level:** These questions help us to examine what the Word tells us.

- Why did the disciples fall asleep when they had been instructed to pray?
- What was the reason given by Jesus for the disciples need to pray?
- How did Jesus demonstrate a life surrendered to the will of His Father?



**Heart Level:** These questions help us wrestle with what we believe.

- What prevents you from entering into prayer when you most need it?
- What temptation might Jesus have been referring to in verse 46?



**Hands Level:** These questions help us commit to a next step and live it out in our everyday lives.

- Where is there a gap between your will for your life and God's will for your life as a believer?
- What area in your life do you need to surrender more to God?