

Life Group Discussion Guide

A life group is a formational community that gathers regularly to care, learn, and pray together. These questions may form the basis of your conversation and are designed to help participants listen and respond to God through personal and scriptural reflection, as well as stirring an imagination for how to practice the way of Jesus.

Groups are encouraged before beginning to have a moment of prayerful stillness, collecting your scattered attention to God, and then if helpful to connect with one another through a conversation starter question.

Questions

1. When is a time in your life when you were lost and needed a guide?
2. Read Ezekiel 34:11-16 and Psalm 23:1. Now read John 10:11. How does understanding this as a divine claim change the weight of His words?
3. Based on these texts, when you hear Jesus say, “I AM the Good Shepherd,” what comes to mind emotionally or visually? In your life right now, does God feel more like a distant ruler or a close shepherd?
4. Read John 10:12-18 & Psalm 23. Both Jesus and Psalm 23 use intimate language (“The Lord is my shepherd”; “I know my sheep”). How does this shape your understanding of God’s character?
5. Which of the three sheep characteristics—helpless, follower, or limited growth—resonates most with you?
6. How does reimagining Psalm 23 in the desert, not a lush meadow, change your understanding of God’s provision? What is most difficult for you to believe God will provide right now?
7. If you’re honest, what path are you being guided down currently? By whom or what? What are some ways you can grow in recognizing Jesus’ voice/guidance? Where do you most need His guidance right now?
8. How have you experienced God’s protection—spiritually, emotionally, or physically? How do the images of the rod and staff show God’s love, not His harshness?
9. What are the two ways *The Good Shepherd* goes above and beyond a regular shepherd in His care for us? How does knowing Jesus laid down His life for you personally impact your faith? What does “abundant life” look like to you in practical, day-to-day terms?
10. What is one step you can take this week to follow the Good Shepherd more closely?