



Dear LifeGroup Leader,

During this "God questions" series, I'm wondering about what other God questions we carry around with us.

When developing his sermon, Austin came to me and asked me what God questions I have. John, Austin, and I started thinking together about the question we carry. I'm sure you have your own - things that don't make sense, even as you come to church, or as you drive to work, or as you read the Bible.

While this series is about answering God questions, I hope it also helps us ask them. I hope it helps us be more aware and curious about the parts of our lives that don't make sense, the things we still don't understand, the mysteries we encounter on a daily basis.

-Connor



God Questions

Why Does God Get to Tell Me How to Live?

The next few weeks we'll be addressing common difficult questions we all struggle with concerning God, the world, and our place in it. While we all want clean answers, often healing comes in pondering important questions together. This week we talk about the question, "Why does God get to tell me how to live?" People throughout history have sought to control their lives at the expense of others. We too struggle with the idea of a sovereign God who guides our lives. Yet only when we understand the goodness of surrendering our lives to God's purposes do we find healing and hope.

FOCAL POINT: Surrendering to God isn't submitting to a controlling God, but opening ourselves up to a more full life.



Getting Started

Catch up together about how your week has been, possibly also revisit last week's meeting.

- ▶ Do you like following directions?



Exploring Scripture

Read the following passage together.

Matthew 16:25-26

- ▶ Where do you hear God's heart in this passage?
- ▶ What words or phrases stick out to you?



Reflection

Take time to reflect together about the passage.

- ▶ Replace the word "life" in this passage. What other words might you use to describe what Jesus is saying? What parts of ourselves does Jesus suggest we need to "lose"?
- ▶ Now replace the word "loses". What other words might you use here to describe what it is Jesus is asking us to do with our life?



Praxis

With the understanding that we gathered here are the body of Christ, let's allow the truth from today's scripture to impact us as a LifeGroup.

- ▶ Austin challenged us in service to think about one aspect of our life we might allow God to control this week. Let's think more on this.
 - ▶ If you were in service, what did you talk about and decide to change this week?
 - ▶ How has that gone for you this week?
 - ▶ What's one practical step you can take to allow God to control this aspect of your life in a deeper way?



Moving Outward

Challenge each other to live out God's truth this week.

- ▶ What change can you make tomorrow?

Matthew 16:25-26

For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul