



LIVE IT!
GROUP GUIDE

WEEK 10

Faith Under Pressure

Pressure and Perspective

Live It Guides are not just a “study” we do to fill our heads with information about God. Possessing information doesn’t make us disciples. It’s what we do with it that counts! This looks like **listening, believing and living**. The purpose of this guide is to: (1) foster learning & listening with one another around God’s Word, (2) allow God’s Word to shape what we are believing and (3) encourage one another to live it out in the context of our daily lives. If you find your group not asking “believing” and “living” questions, please adjust your time to allow for this vital part of discipleship.

Listening to God’s Word...

Read James 4:13-14

What does James say about the nature of our lives? What are some of the feeling this brings about in you?

Read Psalm 90:12

What do you think it is about “numbering our days” that leads us to a heart of wisdom? How do you think this connects with what James is talking about?

Read James 4:15

What does James’ statement reveal about our lives? about God? Why do you think James tells them “instead you should say”? Do the words we use speak about the future really make that big of a difference?

Read James 4:16-17

What do you think it looks like to “boast in arrogance” as it relates to planning for the future? Can you think of any ways you may have done this without realizing? How do you respond to James’ definition of sin and it’s application in this passage? We often associate sin with something we do, but in this case, James applies it to the things we are not doing. What do you think he’s specifically thinking in terms of the people he is addressing?

Believing What It Says...

As we hear God speak through His Word, we must take what we are learning and consider how we see ourselves actually living our lives. Many times, we may say we believe something but in fact find that a different belief is influencing our actions. This provides an opportunity to repent and believe the Gospel.

Do you believe that your every breath and your every action are subject to the Will of God?

Do you believe that your life is not your own?

Do you believe that knowing what you ought to do and not doing it is, for you, sin?

Living it out...

Let’s put what we are hearing from God’s Word into practice...this week! We long to be a people who live an active faith, not only hearing from God, but also responding in obedience to Him!

Spend some time in prayer thanking God for the gift of life. Make a list of some of the things you might regularly take for granted that are gifts of God.

Prayerfully consider the plans and desires you have for the next six months...How might those plans be connected to God’s priorities? Are these plans that you need to re-evaluate in light of this question?

Prayerfully think of one thing that you are already currently doing in your life that you would like to see connected into God’s greater plans and purposes. Ask God to show you what this might look like. Be accountable to at least one person about this desire and work out together what you think this will look like.

Notes...

Record what you hear God saying through His Word and some tangible ways you are desiring to live it out in the next week...