

WEEK 4 | LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

CONNECT

- What is one thing (hobby, interest, topic, etc...), that you can speak with confidence on? Why?
- In your own words, how would you define courage or boldness?

CONSIDER

• What encouraged or challenged you from the sermon and/or daily devotions this week?

CHRIST

Read Luke 23:44-49 together.

- The curtain (v. 45) separated the Holy Place and Most Holy Place in the temple. Only the high priest could enter into the Most Holy Place, because that was where the presence of God resided. The torn curtain shows us that God was still present and Jesus made a way for God's presence to be available for all. There is power in His presence, whether it's from being with God or His people. Why do you think this is so? When have you experienced a moment or season of God's presence being with you? Share a story.
- Twice on the cross Jesus quotes the Psalms (Mark 15:34/Psalm 22 & Luke 23:46/Psalm 31). How does Biblical truth bring comfort in times of struggle/pain? How does it bring boldness into our lives? What are the go to Scriptures that are defining your life right now?
- In v. 46, Jesus quotes Psalm 31:5. Every Jewish child would have learned this prayer from their parents and recited it at night before bed. The image this creates is of a son (Jesus) falling asleep with death while trusting in his Heavenly Father. Read Psalm 31 together.
 Through the lens of Jesus and Cross, what stands out to you from this passage? Why?
- Even in his death, Jesus was living out God's love and teaching from the cross. So much so, that a Roman Centurion began taking steps of faith (v. 47). When have you experienced the benefit of someone's boldness of faith? How are you doing living out your faith with your family/friends, community, and work? Where do you need boldness?



Read Ephesian 2:1-10 together.

- What words or phrases resonate with you from this passage? Why?
- At the death of Jesus, John 19:30 adds another phrase, "It is finished." This wasn't a cry of defeat, but one of victory. That victory is summed up in Ephesians 2:1-10. Author Watchmen Nee says, "If at the outset we try to do anything, we get nothing; if we seek to attain something, we miss everything. For Christiainity begins not with a big DO, but with a big Done."¹ What is the difference between grace and faith? Why do you think we have a tendency of trying to earn our way into heaven instead of resting on what has been done?
- Boldness can only come from first resting in God. Resting reminds us of what has been done for us. Resting reminds us that we are not supposed to carry the weight by ourselves. It is only after resting that we can stand with boldness, not on our strength, but with God's. What does resting with God look like for you? How are you intentionally creating time to spend time with God? As a group, how can we help each other make this a priority in our lives?
- Verse 10 tells multiple truths. God created us, redeemed us, and is preparing works that He has gifted us to do. What good work has God called, designed, created, or tasked you to do? Is there anything holding you back from accomplishing this?

CALLING

- We often pray for safety, for success, for comfort, but how often do you pray for **boldness**? This week, commit to praying for **boldness**.
- **Daily Devotions:** Spend 15 minutes each day with the *Humble & Hungry* devotions. Text JOINGOD to 81411 or use the Study tab in Northside's App for Daily Devotions.
- **Memorize**: "Into your hands I commit my spirit; deliver me, Lord, my faithful God." Psalm 31:5 (NIV)
- **Further Study:** Spend some time following the last week of Jesus' life: Luke 19:28-48 & Matthew 26-27. Journal your thoughts on what you observe in the attitude, actions, and reactions of Jesus.

¹ Watchmen Nee, *Sit Walk Stand* (CLC Publications, 2009), 14.