



NUA

How did we get here?



LIFE
GROUPS

Leader Check-in

In your opinion, how did all of this get here? Where did the universe originate?

Discover

Read Genesis 1 & 2. What stands out to you about this passage of Scripture? How does this explain the beginning of life? Do you agree or disagree?

What does science have to say about the beginning of the universe? In what ways does it contradict the Bible's account of the beginning? How can science and the Bible work together?

Read James 1:17. How does this verse apply to our conversation about God and science?

Christians refer to God as the "Grand Designer," what evidence do you see to support this claim and what evidence do you see that contradicts this claim?

Fully Own

Describe a time in your life when you struggled with believing in the existence of God. What evidence would remove all your doubt?

From where does the impulse and drive to discover meaning come?

Read Romans 12. What gifts do you possess? In your opinion, what is your purpose for taking up space on this planet? How does God fit in to that purpose?

What happens if we take God out of the equation? What logical conclusions can we draw about purpose when we assume there is no God?

Challenge

Take some time this week to journal about your purpose on this earth. What are you good at? What are you bad at? How can you use your strengths and weaknesses to live out a life full of purpose? Come back next week ready to share your discoveries with the group.





NUA

Jesus: fact or fiction?



LIFE
GROUPS

Leader Check-in

What did you learn from your journaling time this week? What are your strengths and weakness?

Discover

What is the craziest story you have ever heard? What factors would cause you to believe the story was true?

Read Luke 1:1-4. What stands out to you about this passage? After hearing this, would you believe or doubt this story to be true? Why?

Develop a theory for why Jesus is the most talked about, most written about historical character. What would He have to do in order to become the most documented person in history?

Why is it so hard to believe the stories about Jesus of Nazareth? Why do you not doubt other historical figures in the same way?

Fully Own

Read 2 Timothy 3:16. What point is Paul making in this passage? How does that apply to the historical accuracy of Jesus?

What would you have to gain in order for you to die for a lie? What does history's account of the disciples' deaths tell us about the validity of Jesus's life?

How does this conversation change the way you share your faith with others? Develop a method for showing others the validity of Jesus without being a "know-it-all."

What part of the video today challenged you the most?

Challenge

Research the historical accuracy of Jesus. What proof do we have outside the biblical accounts that show Jesus as a real historical person? Share your findings with the rest of the group next week.





NUA

What about the resurrection?



LIFE
GROUPS

Leader Check-in

What did you learn from your research on Jesus? How did this research affect you?

Discover

What symbols bring you hope? What does the cross symbolize for you?

Read Mark 8:31-38. Does this sound like a con man to you? What are your thoughts on Jesus surviving the Roman crucifixion? Do you think this is a valid answer to the resurrection?

Develop some theories for how the Romans or Jesus's followers could have taken the body somewhere else. How does this explain the disciples' willingness to die for following Jesus?

How has the video challenged you this week? What truth does the video illuminate?

Fully Own

If the resurrection actually happened, then how should your life be different? What would your relationship with Jesus look like?

Read Mark 16:1-8. What can we learn about the resurrection from this passage? What does this mean for us today?

In your opinion, what is the greatest evidence for the resurrection?

How can you take this good news to the people around you? What strategies do you have for bringing up the topic of the resurrection in normal conversation?

Challenge

Talk with someone about the resurrection this week. Ask them if they think it is true or false and then ask them why they believe that. Create a list of 5 things you can do every day to passionately follow Jesus. Bring the list with you next week to the group.





NUA

What was Jesus really like?



LIFE
GROUPS

Leader Check-in

What did you write down for your list? How did your conversation about the resurrection go?

Discover

How does our culture view Jesus?

Read John 8:2-11. Why do you think the Pharisees and religious leaders brought the woman to Jesus for judgment? Why would they go to such lengths to test Him?

What are some other examples of crowds trying to test Jesus?

In what ways do crowds of people judge us? How does Jesus respond to this judgment?

Read Mark 5:25-34. What do you find interesting about this passage? How do people fall into the “unknown” category? What does it feel like for someone to know you?

Fully Own

Read John 20:24-29. What can we learn from the story of Thomas? How can you relate to this story?

What does it feel like to be a nameless face in a crowd? Have you ever felt this way with Jesus?

How can doubt and faith coexist? Develop a theory for why some Christians try to eradicate all doubt from their faith. Why are we so afraid of doubting?

How can doubt and questions strengthen one’s faith? How can we better embrace people around us who have doubts and questions?

Challenge

Create a list of five things you doubt about God. Share your list with someone else in the group and then commit to meeting together sometime this week to talk about each other’s doubts and questions.





NUA

Why do I like Jesus but struggle with Christians?

LIFE 
GROUPS

Leader Check-in

Talk about your conversations this week about doubt and questions. Did you come to any new revelations about Jesus or God?

Discover

What are some Christian stereotypes? What are some of the most well-known “Christianese” sayings?

How does our culture and society define Christian rules? What are some common things that Christians try to avoid? How does this behavior affect our relationship with God?

Read Luke 18:9-14. How can rules consume your life? Why do you think Jesus told this parable? What do you think God cares about more, rules or faith? Why?

Based on your knowledge of the Bible, what are some rules we should have in place?

Fully Own

Read Luke 10:25-37. How can this passage apply to our lives today? What is Jesus trying to teach us about religion and love?

Read 1 John 4:18. How is fear and faith related? How does fear affect your faith and how does faith affect your fear?

Consider the “clean white suit” illustration, how are Christians living that kind of lifestyle? How do we break free from the bondage of unnecessary rules?

What does it mean to live in the world, but not of the world? **See John 17:13-19.**

Challenge

As a Christ-follower, write down the rules you think are the most important to follow. Share those rules with the group. Develop some disciplines for living in such a way where you follow the rules and still love the hurting people around you.





NUA

How can you say that God is good?



LIFE
GROUPS

Leader Check-in

What disciplines did you develop from last week? How did they affect your life this week?

Discover

Do you believe that God is responsible for all things, the good and the bad? Why do you hold to that worldview?

Why do we blame God for all the bad in the world but neglect to give Him credit for the good? What would be some reasons for atheists to blame a God they do not believe?

In your opinion, what would an encounter with Jesus look like, feel like, sound like?

Read John 11:28-37. Based on this passage, how did Jesus deal with suffering and pain? Describe a time in your life when you felt like this.

Fully Own

Have you ever suffered so bad that it caused you to question the existence of a good God? How did you process that suffering? What helped you return to God?


How do you typically pray in the midst of suffering? Explain the thought process behind suffering being the result of one's own sin.

How do most people respond to suffering? How do you respond? How should we respond as Christ followers?

Read Romans 5:1-5. How can suffering actually make your life better? Why do you think the apostle Paul wrote this passage? What do you disagree with in this passage?

Challenge

Create a list of the five worst times of suffering in your life. What did you learn because of the suffering? Share your response with someone in the group.





NUA

Has the church caused more harm than good?

LIFE GROUPS

Leader Check-in

How has your view on suffering changed this week?

Discover

How would you define a church? What is the purpose of church? How can the church benefit the community? How can it hurt the community?

How does the world criticize the church? How do Christians criticize the church? What is more frustrating; the church as an organization or the people in the church?

Read Mark 2:15-17. What is the difference between a hospital for sinners and a museum for saints?

How did people in the past justify war and killing in the name of God? How do we reconcile all the evil and injustice in the world with the message of peace and love found in the New Testament?

Fully Own

What acts of kindness could you focus on to bring peace and love into your community? How can Christians be better at being kind when no one is watching?


Read Matthew 22:34-40. What stands out to you from these verses? How should this passage affect your day to day life?

Read Matthew 28:16-20. What does it mean to be a Christian? What does it mean to be a Christ-follower? Is there a difference?

In such a negative world, how can you see the positive? How can you push through the pain to see the beauty that Jesus brings to all sinners?

Challenge

Develop a list of positive actions you would be proud of for accomplishing. Talk with the others in your group about ways you can effectively implement these actions into your daily routines. Pray together before the night is over about opportunities where God can be glorified through our kind actions.





NUA

What does Jesus have to do with me?



LIFE
GROUPS

Leader Check-in

What have you learned from this study so far? What has been the most challenging discussion? What things in the videos do you most agree with?

Discover

What is your opinion of the first few chapters of Genesis? Should we interpret it literally or as poetry?

Read Genesis 2. What does this chapter teach us about God's relationship with humankind? What happened to that relationship? Why do you think shame was the first thing they felt?

Read John 1:1-18. What did God do to repair the broken relationship? Why do people struggle with this truth?

Why would God send someone like Jesus? Why would not God send a conqueror or a king?

What length would you go to in order to save your own child?

Fully Own

Where do we find our identity? Whom do we look to for identity? Why is this such a struggle for most Christians and unbelievers?

What societal pressures affect you? How do Christians typically respond when society pressures the church to change?

What does Jesus offer us? What does Jesus mean to us? What does He give us?

Read Romans 5:6-8. How does Paul describe us in this passage? How does he describe God? How is this passage significant to us?

Challenge

Do you choose to follow Jesus? If you are following Jesus, how is your life different? Who is in your community that needs to hear this message of hope? Make a commitment as a group to live out your faith in word and deed. Report back to the group in a couple of weeks and see what God can do through you.

