

# The Story Of My Life

WEEK 2 - ULTIMATE POWER  
LEADERS GUIDE

## COMMUNICATING WITH YOUR GROUP

### TEXT MESSAGES

*SEND THIS TO EVERYONE IN YOUR GROUP:*

Hi there! Hope this week is going awesome! Just wanted to let you know that I'm asking God to show you ways you can leverage your influence to write a better story this week! See you soon!

*SEND THIS TO ANYONE WHO MISSED*

*GROUP THIS WEEK:* Hey—we missed you at group! Here's the link to the audio/video so you can catch up. Hope all is well and can't wait to see you next week!

*SEND THIS TO ONE OR TWO PEOPLE IN YOUR GROUP, JUST BECAUSE:*

Hi! Just wanted to tell you how happy I am that you're in our group. I notice that you are \_\_\_\_\_. And it's great to see God using you in our group! (Fill in the blank with a positive characteristic. For example, "a great listener," "good at keeping the conversation going," "willing to offer encouragement.")

### EMAIL:

*SEND THIS TO EVERYONE IN YOUR GROUP.*

Hey everyone! Hope your week is going great! I wanted to send out a quick email to let everyone know what we'll be talking about in life group this week. We're now in week two of "The Story of My Life." This week's message is about using power and influence to help and serve others. While not all of us may feel like we're in positions of power, the truth is that we all have people we influence—whether we're aware of it or not. This week, we're going to talk about how each of us can use our influence to serve others and to write a better story. I'm really looking forward to our time together! Here are the details for our meeting: *Date/time:* *Address:* Our weekly Bible Reading Plan and the questions for this week are attached. See you guys soon!

## BIBLE READING PLAN

*If you're looking for a more personal way to encourage your group members to read Scripture, try texting each day's Scripture and prompt to the group. Or, EMAIL THEM out each week. That way they have each day's reading as the week begins.*

MONDAY (Day 1) Matthew 5:14-16

What does it mean that God considers you to be "the light of the world?" How have you seen yourself be a light? Ask God to show you ways you can use your influence to be a light to everyone who comes in contact with you.

TUESDAY (Day 2) 2 Corinthians 12:9

It's easy to feel like we're too weak to actually be powerful, but the truth is that our weakness is where God's strength can pour through. Think about the areas of your life where you're most weak and ask God to show you how He's being strong in those areas.

WEDNESDAY (Day 3) Philippians 2:5-6

Who has the opportunity to benefit the most from the power you have? What can you do today to use your power to someone else's advantage?

THURSDAY (Day 4) Matthew 25:40

Who are the people in your life who are most in need? How can you use your power or influence to serve them?

FRIDAY (Day 5) Galatians 5:13

What's something you're going to do today that'll benefit you? What's something you can do today to benefit someone else?

## SUMMARY

Many of us think that powerful people are men and women who lead Fortune 500 companies, or are heads of banks, or are politicians making policy decisions for millions of people. We rarely consider ourselves to be powerful. But the truth is that each of us has some sort of power. Whether in our jobs, our families, or our neighborhoods, we all have the ability to influence those around us. The question we must then answer is: What are we doing with the power we have? How we choose to answer will affect our ability to experience the full, abundant, better life Jesus promised. Power, in any form, can be used to benefit the person who holds it or to serve the people who are under it. When we look at Jesus' life, we see the perfect example of how to use power. As the Son of God, He had more power than anyone on Earth, but instead of wielding His power like a self-serving weapon, He used it to serve others. Since we all have power in one form or another, it's our responsibility to use it to make other's lives better, and as we do, we just might make our lives better too.

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*THESE QUESTIONS ARE A GUIDE TO GET THE CONVERSATION STARTED IN YOUR GROUP—DON'T FEEL LIKE YOU NEED TO ASK EVERYTHING YOU SEE HERE! AS LONG AS YOU'RE HAVING A CONVERSATION, YOU'RE ON THE RIGHT TRACK. ALSO, FEEL FREE TO ADJUST THE QUESTIONS FOR THE NEEDS OF YOUR SPECIFIC GROUP.*

- WHO IS THE MOST POWERFUL PERSON YOU KNOW?
- HAVE YOU EVER SEEN SOMEONE USE POWER IN A NEGATIVE WAY?
- IN WHAT WAYS DO YOU HAVE POWER OR INFLUENCE?
- WHY WAS JESUS' ACTION TOWARD HIS FOLLOWERS (WASHING THEIR FEET) SO SURPRISING?
- DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WITH POWER WHO USES IT IN THIS WAY? HOW DOES THEIR POWER AND INFLUENCE BENEFIT THE PEOPLE AROUND THEM?
- THINK ABOUT WHO YOU HAVE POWER OR INFLUENCE OVER. IN WHAT WAYS CAN YOU USE THAT INFLUENCE TO SERVE THEM THIS WEEK? WHAT WOULD KEEP YOU FROM DOING THAT?
- HOW DOES SERVING OTHERS LEAD TO LIVING A BETTER STORY?

## CONSIDER THIS - LIFEGROUP APPLICATION

*Read this before you meet. Then, take a moment after your discussion to go over this application with your Life Group. How does this relate to your Life Group? Is it something you are already doing? If so, how can you do it better? If not, what steps can your group take to make this application happen?*

One of the quickest ways to grow closer together as a small group is to spend time together outside of group. The most effective small groups don't limit themselves to one hour a week together. If you want to build a community of people who have deep relationships, it's important to facilitate ways in which you and your group members can spend time together outside of the small group setting. Encourage casual hangouts throughout the week and even on weekends, knowing that the more time your group spends together, the better your weekly small group time will be. One of the absolute best ways to spend time together outside of small group is to serve together. Whether you volunteer at a church event or a local shelter, serving can bring people together faster than almost anything else. This week, talk about places in the community where your group might be able to do some sort of service project. It doesn't matter how big or small the service is, but plan a time when you can all collectively serve others. Remember, relationships are built on time shared together. Don't rely on one hour a week to build long-lasting relationships. Get out in the community together!

---

## WRAPPING UP

### PRAY

Praying for one another is an essential part in growing in community and in our faith. Take some time at the end of each session to allow your group to offer any prayer requests they may have. Then, allow someone to lead the group in prayer. One person may do the entire prayer or you may have someone open the prayer, allow for others to pray and then someone to close.

### MAKE PLANS TO MEET AGAIN

This week, WE want to encourage you to plan a service opportunity for your Life Group. You can choose to serve at a local organization, within the church or work on a service project to be donated. Serving together not only helps our community but allows your group to build community.

Remind everyone that you will be meeting again next week. If you need to make plans regarding location or meals, now is a great time to do that. This way, you can include the info in your reminder email.

# *The Story Of My Life*

WEEK 2 - ULTIMATE POWER  
LEADERS GUIDE

## LEADER NOTES