

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

PRAY TOGETHER

Heavenly Father, as we gather to discuss Your Word today, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to understand the times we're living in. Just as Paul urged the Romans to wake up from their spiritual slumber, we pray that You would shake us from any complacency or apathy in our own lives. Help us to see both the darkness around us and the light You're bringing into the world. Guide our conversation today, and may each person here receive exactly what You want them to hear. In Jesus' name, amen.

ICE BREAKER

What's the funniest or most memorable time you hit "snooze" and overslept, only to find yourself scrambling to get ready?

SERMON OVERVIEW

In this powerful message, Pastor CJ challenges us to 'wake up' and understand our current reality. Our present era is characterized by tribalism, truth collapse, an epidemic of loneliness, and mental health crises, to name a few realities. While there's much to be concerned about, the gospel is still spreading all across the globe. Paul urges us to put aside deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light, living with awareness that our salvation is drawing near. Pastor CJ references this progression—wake up, clean up, grow up—because Christ is going to show up. This message encourages us to live intentionally, aware of the times, and ready for Christ's return or our own meeting with Him. It's a call to action, urging us to shake off apathy and engage fully in what God is calling us to do.

READ SCRIPTURE

ROMANS 13:11-14

CONNECT RELATIONALLY

- 1) The sermon contrasted examples of people living in darkness versus light. Share a time when you've chosen to live in the light despite cultural pressures.
- 2) In what areas of your life do you find yourself most tempted to 'gratify the desires of the sinful nature,' and how can you resist those temptations?
- 3) Pastor CJ recalled members of his family growing up who were very deep sleepers. Where in your life have you been lulled into a strong spiritual slumber—becoming distracted, disengaged, desensitized, or distanced to things that once stirred conviction?

**GROW
SPIRITUALLY**

4) Paul tells us to 'understand the present time.' CJ mentioned a list of themes that he generated in ChatGPT to understand our present time. What cultural or personal realities do you see today that most convince you that Paul's statement is just as urgent for us as they were for the church in Rome?

5) What does it mean to 'put on the armor of light' in practical terms, and how can we intentionally clothe ourselves with Christ's character?

6) Pastor CJ shared a list of Christ's names and attributes to help us align fully with the reality of His return and our union with Him. What are some of the ways the Bible refers to Christ? Go around your group and share some of those names. It's an open Bible exercise!

**LIVE
GENEROUSLY**

7) What does it look like this week for you to "wake up" and engage with God's calling in your family, workplace, or friendships?

8) How can we as a church community and life group better support each other in 'living as a reflection of the kingdom' in our daily interactions and choices?

9) Pastor CJ compared readiness to preparing for a homecoming dance—being appropriately dressed when the moment arrives. What one concrete step can you take this week to cultivate readiness for Christ's return or your own face-to-face meeting with Him?

**TAKE
ACTION**

Based on our conversation today, and how the Holy Spirit is moving within me, I am feeling convicted to take the following action (keep it simple):

Please ask each member to share their step if they have one. It is ok if you are still discerning and need time to process, pray and ponder.

**PRAY
TOGETHER**

Close the session by praying for each other, asking God to help you live with urgency, purpose, and love as you await Christ's return. Also, take a few moments to ask each member to share a joy or praise and an area of concern. Ask someone to pray over these requests, and please distribute these to all group members so you may continue to intercede for one another between your meetings.

**ENGAGE
TOGETHER**

We witnessed a key component of Northview's Family Framework this weekend with our Bible Presentations. Please take a moment to review the details of our Family Framework on the App and note our two upcoming events: Father-Daughter Date Night and Father-Son Man Event.