

Life Group Lesson

Week #2 - Made to Bear God's Word (w0rd)

Simply put: God has made you to be the change this world needs. And it starts with the Spirit of truth dwelling deeply, richly in us, so that He can move in and through us!

This past week, Pastor John shared the story of many before us who were made to bear God's Word, and as a result, they were able to say yes upon yes to Him and allow Him to move and work through them: Harriet Tubman, Elisabeth Elliott, Pastor John's grandmother.

Explaining the word "w0rd" - No w0rd from God can ever fail to accomplish its purposes. It's not just a logos word but a rhema word, or a Word from God for right now that changes everything. "W0rd" is the zero word. If our lives are like a book with many chapters, then there's the 0 chapter. This is the chapter that God wrote, before all the other chapters begin. It is this w0rd that God gives that leads you into the path of the will that God created you for back in chapter 0. Scriptural reference - Psalm 139:16 (NLT) - "You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed."

Looking Back

Have you been reflecting on the keys and ways to not lose the keys from last week? Allow your group space to share any new reflections if so!

FAMILY TIME (20 min)

- Vision Statement: Have a group member explain the vision of your lifegroup. Invite another group member to share your vision piece next time.
- Intro Question: Name a time you said "yes" to something you believed God was putting on your heart. What was that experience like?
- Prayer Requests, Praise Reports and Updates from previous week(s).

Look Up

WORSHIP (15 min)

- Cast Vision for Worship...What it is, why we do it, how we can do it.

- Spend time in worship together.
- Previous Sunday worship set: 14:30 - 28:18
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aaiFy7UGZul&feature=youtu.be>
 - "You Keep On Getting Better"
 - "Yes and Amen"

**Encourage your group members to engage God's heart for one another during worship and share any affirmations or words of encouragement they receive with each other as Holy Spirit leads. One strategic way to do this on Zoom is through the private message function while worship is ongoing.

Bible Study: Passage - Luke 1:26-38 (ESV)

26 In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. 28 And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" 29 But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. 30 And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. 32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, 33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

34 And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

35 And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. 36 And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God." 38 And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

Open Group Discussion -

1. What really strikes you from this passage?
2. Why do you think Mary was able to say "yes" to God's call on her life?

Engaging God's Heart -

3. Lord, in this season, is there something I need to let go of?
4. Father, is there something I need to grab a hold of?

Looking Forward

After your group has taken some time to allow the Lord to speak to their hearts, feel free to spend the rest of your time together praying over one another's encounters. Also, encourage your group members to share God's heart with each other as led by Holy Spirit - words of encouragement, Scriptural promises, words of knowledge, and so forth.

Kids Lesson

Please read Luke 1:26-33:

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."

Mary was greatly troubled at his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of Most High."

1. Why do you think Mary was "greatly troubled" by the words given by the angel?
2. Do you think the assignment/task given to Mary was an easy one or a difficult one?
3. How would you feel if an angel visited you one day and gave you a special mission that would be very difficult to carry out?
4. Though the task given to Mary was a difficult one what are some encouraging words that we see in this passage that could encourage Mary to carry out this special task?

It is important for us to remember those very words given to us so that when things get difficult we could go back to either a word given to us or by simply going back to our Bible and remembering the verses that God has promised and spoken over us. God's words never fail us that is why we can run to them when we need encouragement.