



JANUARY 11

BREAKING THROUGH HEAVEN UNLEASHED



POTLUCK & COVENANT WEEK

This week, we start the winter session of Life Groups with a potluck and covenant meeting. Your Life Group Leaders should have contacted you by now to make sure you know the time and location of the meeting and what to expect for the first gathering. If you have not heard from your Life Group Leaders, please contact Samantha Poladian at (818) 709-0113, ext. 105, and she will help get you connected.

The Life Group Covenant explains the purpose of your Life Group, clarifies the expectations for being a part of your Life Group, and explains what you are committing to for this session. Your covenant will look different based on whether you are in an in-person group or a digital (Zoom) group.

As you prepare for your meeting, make sure to take some time to answer the questions in the study and then bring them with you to your first meeting.

Finally, we encourage you to use a journal or extra paper to write down your answers.

Enjoy!



GETTING STARTED

This weekend, we continued our two-week series, *Breaking Through*, and learned that where we go, heaven goes, and we can develop an expectancy that God can show up at any point in our day-to-day lives.

Before starting the study, take a moment to sit quietly with the Lord and meditate on the promise found in this passage:

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death' or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

Revelation 21:3-4



GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER

Where did you grow up, and how do you think that shaped who you are today?



STUDY QUESTIONS

1. What was your biggest takeaway from this two-week series, and why?
2. In the first message of the series, Dre asked, “What comes to mind when you think of heaven?” How would you answer that?
 - a. What has influenced your idea of heaven?
 - b. How might your view of life shift if you reflected on heaven every day?
3. In this miniseries, one of the principles we learned is that *Christ-Followers Are Where Heaven Breaks Through Onto Earth*. We often forget that, by the Holy Spirit within us, we carry Heaven and the resurrection power of Jesus wherever we go. Read the following verses and highlight any words or phrases that stand out to you.
 - **1 Corinthians 3:16**
 - **John 14:15-17**
 - **Romans 8:11**
 - **2 Corinthians 4:7**
 - a. Where do you expect to encounter God in your day-to-day or throughout your week?
 - b. Where do you not expect to encounter God? Why is that?
 - c. Take a moment now to pause and pray for the areas where you desire to encounter God and need heaven to break through.
4. We also learned that *Heaven Is Unleashed Through Real People*. Our walk with the Lord is not about living in perfection but about walking in obedience by listening to and following the Spirit.
 - a. Do you ever feel like your prayers are not enough to see change in the areas you care most about? Why or why not?
 - b. Read **Matthew 17:20**. How does this verse encourage you to pray more *vehemently*?
5. In the first message of this series, Dre shared this quote by Darrell Johnson from his book, *Fifty-Seven Words That Change the World*: “To pray the Lord’s Prayer is to participate in heaven’s invasion of the earth.”
 - a. Spend a few moments now, slowly praying through the Lord’s Prayer in **Matthew 6:9-13**.
 - b. Over the last two weeks, we’ve been encouraged to pray *vehemently* in these three ways:
 - *For Heaven To Break Through In You*
 - *To Experience Restoration In Your Heart*
 - *For an Expectant Heart*

- c. In which of these three areas would you like to experience heaven breaking through?
- d. Pause and take time now to pray *vehemently* over that area. Also, ask Him to break through in every area of your life, your work, your family, your marriage, your children, and any broken relationships, and to raise your expectancy for Him to show up in powerful ways.



LOOKING FORWARD

As we start this new year, what new plans or commitments might you make to grow in your walk with Jesus this year? Share these commitments with your Life Group. This would be a good area for your group to support one another through prayer and accountability.



TOPICAL PRAYER

Prayer is an important part of each Life Group. Often those who are new to a Life Group are intimidated by praying aloud if they have never done it before. Others are so comfortable with prayer that they can take over the prayer time without meaning to. For these reasons, we suggest practicing topical prayer to help your group get comfortable praying together. Here are three basic guidelines:

1. Focus on a Single Topic/Request at a Time

Anyone in the group is free to introduce a prayer request. Once a topic is introduced, one or two members pray for that request. Then the Life Group Leader will direct the prayer time by sharing the next topic/request.

2. Pray Several Times Together

By focusing on one topic at a time, each member has an opportunity to pray at different times for the requests they are most passionate about.

3. Keep Requests/Prayers Short and Simple

By keeping both requests and prayers short and simple, everyone has a chance to share and pray. This helps those who are new to prayer feel more comfortable praying. It also helps everyone stay focused during your time of prayer together.