



## living

*This discussion guide includes preparation BEFORE the group and some guidance DURING the group meeting. Preparation before the group will help you, your leader, and your group to engage and respond to the living and active Word of God.*

### PREPARATION BEFORE THE GROUP MEETS:

*The aim of this preparation is to encourage good & prayerful observation of the text of God's word and the joyful experience of discovering its truth.*

#### Pray & read Romans 6; Galatians 5

What stands out to you from these readings?

Are you puzzled about anything in these readings?

How do these readings make you **feel**?

What do you **think** in response to these readings?

What will you **do** in response to these readings?

**a taste of theology pre-reading:** In, *The good life in the last days – making choices when the time is short*, [Matthias Media, 2018, p412], Mikey Lynch writes: “How then do we live in these last days? We put God first and die to our sinful selves. We serve God in the diversity of his world. Guided by God’s word we wisely treat things as they are, where they are and when they are – and do all this knowing who we ourselves are. We treat all the good things in this world as relative goods because this world is passing away but we trust that living this way is the best life we could live. And we make decisions in the light of all this with realism, recognizing diversity, being content, thinking it through under the word of God and doing what we want.”

## WHEN THE GROUP MEETS: Pray for your discussion time

### our **living** core value

We delight in **living** out the new life that Christ Jesus has won for us through his death and resurrection. We live by his Spirit as he transforms us into his likeness, producing his fruit in our lives.

▸ Do you think/feel this core value reflects what really matters to you as an individual and as a member of this church? Why/why not?

**1. the God who is life** | read Gen 2.4-9, 3.22-24; Deut 30.15-20; Psalm 63, 84; Acts 17.24-31

▸ Is it only at Creation or birth that God gives life? How can you be more conscious that it is because of the LORD God that right now you live and breathe and have your being?

**2. new life in Jesus by His Spirit through His word** | John's Gospel resounds with the declaration that Jesus is life (these are the references I found! John 1.4; 3.15, 16, 36; 4.14; 5.21, 24, 26, 39, 40; 6.27, 33, 35, 40, 47, 48, 51, 53, 54, 63, 68; 8.12; 10.10, 28; 11.25-26; 14.6; 17.2-3; 20.31) **read John 3.1-21**

▸ What part does God play when someone is born again? (vv1-8)

▸ What evidence is there in the person that they are born again? (vv9-21)

**read John 10.7-10, 10.25-30** | What is the fullness of life that Jesus promises?

**3. growing in all of life** | In 1 Corinthians 15 Paul finishes with these words: *Therefore, my dear brothers & sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.* **Living** is a core value so that we might treasure the things of the Lord more than the vain things of this world.

▸ read Galatians 5 | **the fruitful life** - What is it not? What is it?

▸ read Matt 6.19-34; 2 Thess 3.6-12; 1 Timothy 4.1-8, 5.3-8, 6.17-19; Titus 3.14;

**the practical purposeful life** - Discuss what you learn here about productivity, pleasure, possessions & priorities

**PRAY!**

