



Life Groups 2018

NLC Life Group Through the Bible Study

Week of October 21, 2018

Sermon: Have a Heart for His House

Life Group Schedule

15 MIN Eat, Meet & Greet

15 MIN Ice Breaker: **Collaborative Drawing**. ITEMS NEEDED: Paper and pens/pencils for each person, a timer or stopwatch. INSTRUCTIONS: Have each person fold their paper into 4 equal sections, then unfold it to be flat again. Tell the players to draw a head anywhere in the upper section, connecting the neck to the top of the second section on the paper. Players then fold their paper over to hide what they drew, leaving only the very bottom of the neck showing to help the next player in their drawing. All players pass their folded papers to the left and accept the paper being handed from the right. Each time a new paper is given to a player, they must draw the missing section, connecting it to the other person's previous section without actually looking at it. This process will be repeated for the other remaining sections: torso, legs, and feet. Make sure that all players know to leave the very bottom of their drawing visible, so the next person can continue. Time each section to avoid a lengthy game. Once the drawings are complete, check out the crazy creatures!

OPENING PRAYER

45-60 MIN HAVE A HEART FOR HIS HOUSE

SEE PROVERBS 3:9

- Honoring God pulls us together; dishonoring Him separates us.
 - › Your money always obeys you. It goes where you tell it to go, and it stays where you tell it to stay.

MISSIONS

- SURGE: We have given >\$17 million since 2001 to plant 12,000 churches worldwide.
- The ARC: Has planted over 800 churches in America.
- Dream Center: NLC has given more than 1 million meals to hungry people in Arkansas.
- We can't do half of the vision, because half of our people don't tithe.

SEE EPH 2:19-22; HOSEA 4:6

- People give because they love Jesus, they love what God is doing, and they have a heart for the house.

HOS 4:6 "My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge."

- › "Destroyed" means "to be unraveled."

YOU DON'T HAVE A HEART FOR THE HOUSE OF GOD...

1. **WHEN YOU NO LONGER HONOR HIM.** (See Prov. 3:9, Mal 1:6-12)
 - Honor = To give preference to something or someone.

Q1. What are some ways we can we can honor God?

- Beware of the cancer of complacency. The more success someone has, the less they give because they rely less on God.

2. WHEN YOU PROCRASTINATE. (See Gen 4:2-7)

- The problem wasn't what they brought but when they brought it. Was it a priority?

Q2. What are some signs we may be losing honor?

- Worship is showing God his worth.

3. WHEN YOU THINK GIVING IS ABOUT MONEY. (See Deut 14:23; Malachi 3:10; Matt. 6:21; Matt. 15:8).

- The tithe is not a money issue but a lordship issue. It's about who is first in your life. God doesn't want your money. He wants your heart.
- Which of the following statements would cause anxiety?
 - › "THERE IS NO GOD." or "YOU HAVE NO MONEY."

4. WHEN YOU STOP BRINGING TO GOD. (See Mal 3:6-12)

- Worship is where we get the word "worth." Giving is the same way. We honor God with our giving.
- NLC has always honored God with our worship, and worship includes bringing our tithe to Him. "Bring it" – you can't give it. You can only give it back.

5. WHEN YOU STOP BEING THANKFUL AND NO LONGER ENJOY. (See 2 Cor 4:16-18; Ecc 5:19)

- We all need to give, because everything we have came from God.
- When you have given to God (tithes), and you've given to your Future self (savings), enjoy the rest without guilt. But if you are stealing from God, you will always feel the guilt.

Q3. Share a story about what God has done *in* you.

Q4. Share about something God has done *for* you.

Q5. Share about a time God has done something *through* you.

Q6. Share an experience where you gave God the first part of something—whether tithing your resources or tithing your time (starting your day with Him first).

TAKE PRAYER REQUESTS & PRAY OVER NEEDS. ANNOUNCEMENTS.