



## LIFE GROUP LESSON PLAN

*“How To Live Life The Faith Way” Pt. 5b*

**Thursday, February 23, 2023 – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm**

*Teaching The Bible Through Practical Biblical Teaching*

**VIP Silver Saints - Conference Call: (717) 908-1834, 755875# – Dial \*6 to Mute**

**OPENING PRAYER (2-3 MINUTES) WELCOME TO OUR GROUP (5 MINUTES)**

If this is your first time joining us, please introduce yourself! We are glad you took the time to join us today. Our group has four purposes:

1. **L... Learning together from God's Word**
2. **I... Interceding through prayer**
3. **F... true Fellowship in the Spirit of Christ**
4. **E...Evangelizing the lost**

**PRAISE & WORSHIP (5 MINUTES)**

**FACILITATION OF LESSON**

***Sermon Title: “How To Live Life The Faith Way” Pt.5b***

**POINT I**

*Hope causes you to rejoice, or boast, through tribulations. Hope is necessary to keep you operating in patience.*

*Hope will inspire you to take the action that is needed for your faith to work, but without putting the Word of God in your heart, your mind, and your mouth, you will be like the person that James describes in: **James 1:22***

*But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, **deceiving** your own selves.*

*You will be walking in deception, and you won't receive anything and then you will blame God!*

### **QUESTION**

1. What happens when you don't put the Word Of God in your heart, mind and your mouth?

### **POINT II**

*Pause for a moment and reflect on how hope has propelled you through difficult times. Hope comes from the Word God, and often from the mouth of a friend, a pastor or a loved one.*

*Paul gave hope to the 275 others on a rickety, wooden boat in the storm by standing in their midst and declaring: **Acts 27:22***

*And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of any man's life among you, but of the ship.*

*Then in verse 34 he said to them:*

*34 Wherefore I pray you to take some meat: for this is for your health: for there shall **not an hair fall** from the head of any of you.*

*35 And when he had thus spoken, he took bread, and **gave thanks to God** in presence of them all: and when he had broken it, he began to eat. 36 Then were they **all of good cheer**, and they also took some meat.*

*He gave them hope even though they were still in the middle of a storm.*

*God gave Abraham hope as he continued to remind him of: **Genesis 17:5***

*Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for **a father of many nations** have I made thee.*

*Every time Sarah would call his name, he would think, yes, God said I would be the father of many nations.*

### **QUESTIONS**

1. How has hope propelled you during difficult times in your life? Where or who did it come from?
2. How did Paul give hope to others? How did Abraham receive hope?

### **POINT III**

*The woman with the issue of blood had hope because someone told her that the Messiah was in town, and he was healing people. **Mark 5:27***

*27 When she had **heard of Jesus**, came in the press behind, and **touched his garment**.*

*28 For **she said**, If I may **touch but his clothes**, **I shall be whole**.*

*She knew about the prophecy of healing that would flow from the ends of his prayer shawl. She heard it, and she kept repeating what she heard to herself. Her hope inspired her to take the action of faith.*

*Jairus could have lost hope when he heard that his daughter was dead, but right at that moment he received a Word of the Lord, he heard Jesus say,*

***Mark 5:36***

*36 **Be not afraid, only believe**.*

### **QUESTIONS**

1. How did the woman with the issue of blood receive and operate in hope?
2. How did Jairus receive hope?

### **POINT IV**

*There are a tremendous number of people in the world who are hopeless, you probably come across several every day of your life.*

*They are in the grocery store, in your office building, in your school, and yes, even in the church. They need hope.*

*And you are the one who can give it to them. Let someone know this week that it isn't over yet. God still has something in the future for them, and they should anticipate it with pleasure.*

### **QUESTION**

1. Have you ever come across someone who looked hopeless? Give an example! What is expected of you?

*Let's talk about faith once again since we're learning how to live a life of faith.*

*When it comes to faith; the faith hall of fame, we see in the eleventh chapter of Hebrews includes men and women from many eras, lifestyles, and personality types.*

*Every one of them had human faults and failures. They each qualified for the hall of fame because they went through challenging situations.*

*Not one of them breezed through life on flowery beds of ease. They encountered trouble from opposing forces. Some had to obey God despite severe consequences to themselves in the way of comfort or familiarity.*

*Those who trusted in God, despite what they had to endure, made the hall of fame. Those who didn't are not mentioned.*

### **QUESTIONS**

1. What did it take to make it into the Faith Hall of Fame?
2. What does the bible say about those in it?

### **POINT V**

*Let's go over once again about two people who both had some kind of faith. One is a major character in the Faith Hall of Fame; the other's name is not included. The Bible teaches about different kinds of faith. For right now we can call them Thomas faith and Abraham faith.*

*The Abraham kind of faith brings the victory, he is, after all, known as the father of faith. Unfortunately, many Christians have slipped into the other kind of faith, which we refer to as the Thomas kind of faith.*

*As you probably know, Thomas is not mentioned in Hebrews eleven. Once again let's look at the difference between Thomas faith and Abraham's faith a little deeper. As we do ask yourself which of these describes my current faith status? In John chapter 20, we read Jesus visited his disciples on the very evening of the resurrection.*

*For some reason, Thomas wasn't with them. When they told him about Jesus' appearance in their midst, Thomas responded with faith, but not the God-kind of faith.*

### **QUESTIONS**

1. Why is it important to know the difference between these two faiths?
2. Why wasn't Thomas' name mentioned in the Faith Hall Of Fame?

*Thomas answered in: **John 20:24***

*But Thomas, one of the twelve, called Didymus, was not with them when Jesus came.*

*25 The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe.*

*Thomas didn't say he would never believe! He said he would believe it when he saw it!*

*Natural, worldly faith says, I'll believe it when I see it!*

### **QUESTION**

1. How did Thomas respond to the other disciples?

### **POINT VI**

*Your faith is expressed by what you say! Thomas didn't simply think about believing when he saw; he said it! He could have responded to his fellow disciples with:*

*I believe you, or although I don't know how this could have happened, I'm sure you wouldn't lie to me! Believe is a choice. The words that come out of your mouth are a choice. God will not force you to speak words of faith, And Satan cannot force you to speak words of doubt. You are the one who controls your mouth. You have to choose to speak words of faith!*

***Paul Says In: 2 Corinthians 4:13***

***-- We having the same **spirit of faith**, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I **spoken**; we also believe, and therefore speak; Speak what? Words of faith!***

### **QUESTION**

1. How is your faith expressed? What choices do you have?

## **POINT VII**

*Jesus didn't dismiss Thomas as a disciple because he had worldly faith. He gave the doubter time to rethink and reframe his words. God is merciful! If you've let your faith slip, make a decision to change today. God is giving you time to rethink and reframe your words.*

*Eight days after Thomas expressed worldly faith, Jesus reappeared to his disciples; Thomas was with them this time: **John 20:26***

*26 And after eight days again his disciples were within, and Thomas with them: then came Jesus, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, Peace be unto you.*

*27 Then saith he to Thomas, Reach hither thy finger, and behold my hands; and reach hither thy hand, and thrust it into my side: and **be not faithless, but believing.***

*28 And Thomas answered and said unto him, My Lord and my God.*

*Jesus Reprimanded Thomas And Told Him, "**be not faithless, but believing,**"*

*A faithless person takes the position that he will not believe unless he holds it in his hand, has it now, feels it now, and sees it now.*

*Jesus allowed Thomas to see and touch him, and then Thomas declared that Jesus was his Lord and God.*

## **QUESTION**

*1. How did Jesus respond to Thomas' reply? How will God respond to you when you slip?*

*Thomas believed because he saw, but Jesus said that those who believe before they see would be blessed;*

*29 Jesus saith unto him, Thomas, because thou hast seen me, thou hast believed: **blessed** are they that have not seen, and **yet have believed.***

*This is the year of the return of the blessing upon your life. But the blessing comes to those who believe before they see.*

*You should want to qualify for that. The blessing of the Lord makes rich. The blessing of the Lord makes you the head and not the tail, above only and not beneath. It increases you more and more in every way. The Thomas kind of faith believes after it sees.*

## QUESTION

1. How will you receive what has been prophesied for 2023 concerning the Blessing? What will be the results?

## CALL - TIME OF DECISION (EVERYONE BOW YOUR HEADS)

## PRAISE REPORTS - \*2-MINUTES PER PERSON

## PRAYER FOCUS / INDIVIDUAL PRAYER REQUEST (10 MINUTES)

### Prayer focus:

- 1) Your Circle (friends and family)
- 2) Life Group members
- 3) Word of Faith Leadership:
  1. Pastor Ronald D. Walker, Jr., Evangelist Sharon L. Walker, Minister Promise Walker, Brittany and Christian, Carmelo and the ministerial staff.
  2. Bishop Keith A. Butler and Pastor Deborah Butler

### Have you reached out to your circle today?

## ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 MINUTES)

1. Join “Read Along with Word of Faith” for its’ upcoming Small Talks Series on the following subjects.
  1. The Word of God and Money with Dr. Tamara Lang – **Tuesday, March 14th at 7:30 p.m.**
  2. Trusting God when building or buying a home with Minister Jennifer Bachelor **Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.**

The meetings will be held on ZOOM and Facebook. Meeting ID is **Meeting ID: 844 8529 1794**  
**Passcode: 202540.** Don’t miss out!

2. Join the SWAT Team for their next SWAT Outing, Saturday, February 25th at 11:00 am. For more information contact Minister Francis.
3. Join Kid’s World VI for an Ice Cream Social – **Sunday, February 26, 2023 at 10:00 am.** Yummy Vanilla, Strawberry and chocolate Ice cream with different toppings. You make it your way! FYI: FOR KIDS ONLY! For more information see Minister Abbott.

4. Join Covenant Partners Post Valentines getaway **Friday, February 24 at 7:00pm at Mandahl Bay. See Minster Laverne Oysterman for details or email:wofcovenantpartners@gmail.com.**

5. Join us for Early Morning Prayer, **Monday- Friday from 6:00 am - 7:00 am** and Saturday's at 10:00 am. Join us on the Miracle Line on Tuesday's and Thursday's at 11:00 am by conference call, Facebook, YouTube and the Word of Faith Website. The call-in number for the Early Morning Prayer and the Miracle Line is (717) 908-1834, access code 755875#.

6. Then Join us for Noon Day Prayer, with Evangelist Sharon Walker. Join us for 1-hour to pray. This is an In-person Prayer Service at Word of Faith.

7. Monetary donations are being accepted to be a blessing to those truly in need. When making your donation to please write **"Gift for WOFICC CARES."** **WOFICC CARES** about our church family! **WOFICC CARES** about our community! **WOFICC CARES** about the Islands of the Caribbean!

#### **OFFERING**

- <https://wordoffaithstthomas.com/give-online/> •  
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#### **CLOSING PRAYER & DISMISSAL**

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