# Life Group Questions

**October 11, 2026**

## UP – Knowing Jesus Intimately

**1. [UP]** In Matthew 7:24–27, both the wise man and the foolish man *heard* the words of Jesus, but only one put them into practice. Why is it so easy to confuse simply knowing/hearing truth with actually obeying it?

**2. [UP]** James 1:22 warns us not to "merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves." How does taking quiet time to hear God (such as utilizing a tool like the "One Hour Retreat") prepare our hearts to obey Him when real-life storms hit?

- *Cross-Reference:* Read **Psalm 119:10–11**. How does hiding God's word in our heart guard us against self-deception and sin?

**3. [UP]** In the sermon, it was highlighted that Christianity is not a "works-based religion"—we don't obey to earn favor, but because Jesus already went first and saved us. How does framing obedience as a *response* to grace change your motivation when God asks you to do something hard?

- *Cross-Reference:* Read **Ephesians 2:8–10**. How do grace and good works fit together in the life of a disciple?

**4. [UP]** When the guest speaker last week asked what to do after trusting Jesus, he was told to give up anything that dishonored God, to which he replied, *"Anything for Jesus!"* Is there an area of your life right now where you need to say "yes" ahead of time to whatever God asks?

## IN – Being Known Authentically

**5. [IN]** James 1:23–24 compares listening without doing to looking in a mirror, walking away, and immediately forgetting what you look like. When you examine your life in the "mirror" of Scripture, what is an area where God has been prompting you to make a change?

**6. [IN]** James 1:26 states that a person who doesn't keep a tight rein on their tongue deceives themselves. In a culture full of division and online outrage, how can we as a Life Group help each other guard our words—both in person and on social media?

- *Cross-Reference:* Read **Ephesians 4:29** and **Proverbs 18:21**.

**7. [IN]** Imagine if it became completely normal in our church lobby to ask each other: *"What are you hearing from God, and how are you obeying?"* What keeps us from sharing our moments of obedience (and struggles to obey) more openly with fellow believers?

### OUT – Making Jesus Known Practically

**8. [OUT]** James 1:27 defines pure religion as looking after orphans and widows in their distress and keeping oneself from being polluted by the world. How does active, practical care for the vulnerable serve as a tangible witness of the gospel to our surrounding community?

- *Cross-Reference:* Read **1 John 3:17–18**. What does it look like to love not just in word or speech, but in action and in truth?

**9. [OUT]** In Matthew 7:25, when the rains fell and the winds blew, the house built on the rock stood firm. How can our visible stability and faith during life's personal storms create opportunities to share the hope of Jesus with coworkers, friends, or neighbors who are struggling?

**10. [OUT]** Sometimes obeying God means following a small prompt—like reaching out to a neighbor, offering to pray for a colleague, or serving someone in need. What is one "small step" of obedience God might be prompting you to take toward an unbelieving friend or neighbor this week?

**11. [OUT]** As we wrap up this 4-week series on being a disciple who *"hears from God and does what He says,"* what is one takeaway or habit from this past month that you are committed to carrying into your everyday life at work, school, or home?