

**Leadership**  
LifeGroup Lesson  
Vital Signs Sermon Series  
Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 8:26-40

**OPENING PRAYER:**

Father, Maker, Creator -- you give us breath and life. You also know which breath will be our last. We confess that we do not live as if these days are really fleeting. Change our hearts. Help us to make the most of every moment, living for You, in You. Give us a great sense of urgency as we interact with a world that is lost from You. Give us a heart like Yours that breaks for those who have not experienced Your salvation. Each moment is a gift. May we treasure each one and use them to further Your kingdom and bring You great glory. Amen.

**BREAKING THE ICE:**

- What did you agree or disagree with the sermon this week?
- How do you feel about the word 'leader'? Do you see yourself as a leader? Why or why not?

**WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:<sup>1</sup>**

Leaders are those in power, President Obama, Senator John McCain, the Bishop or the District Superintendent. Yet in Jesus' final commands to Make Disciples, He calls us all to lead others to Him. Read Matthew 28:16-20.

- What did you hear new in the Great Commission today?
- What do you find difficult about this passage?
- What difference does the Resurrection of Christ make in your everyday life?
- As you think about Jesus' 'Great Commission' what holds you back from passing on the Good News of Jesus Christ?
- In what ways can you fulfill The Great Commission in the context of your family? Work? Community?

Read Acts 8:26-40.

- What jumps out at you in this scripture?
- The eunuch was reading Isaiah 53, how does this scripture describe Jesus?
- Would you know the bible well enough to answer the eunuch's questions?
- How can you grow in faith so you can be prepared for similar opportunities?
- How do you see this scripture defining Christian Leadership? How can you live this out in your life?

**MORE TO PONDER:**

***Who teaches you? Whose disciple are you? Honestly. One thing is sure: You are somebody's disciple. You learned how to live from somebody else. There are no exceptions to this rule, for human beings are just the kind of creatures that have to learn and keep learning from others how to live. Aristotle remarked that we owe more to our teachers than to our parents, for though our parents gave us life, our teachers taught us the good life.***

---Dallas Willard, *The Divine Conspiracy*

- What strikes you about this passage?
- Who taught you about the faith? What were the special characteristics of your mentors that you would like to embody?
- Who are you 'leading' into the faith? Who can you identify to 'lead' into the faith in the coming weeks/months?

**CLOSING POSSIBILITIES:**

- How will your life be different based upon what you have learned in this week's scripture, lesson and/or LifeTalk?
- How can the group pray for you this week?

**PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:**

Merciful Savior, too often our eyes are as dim as those of the two disciples who walked to Emmaus. You stand in our very midst, but we are unaware and disconnected. We sit with You at the dinner table but look right past You. You speak to us, but our hearing is dull. We read the Scriptures, but we fail to understand. Lord, we want to know You, to see You, to hear Your Word to us and to apply it to our lives. Open our hearts and minds, we pray; speak to us through Your Spirit so this Word, as it is read and proclaimed, penetrates us with the truth of Your resurrection power. Amen.

<sup>1</sup>Adapted from *The Serendipity Bible* (Zondervan: Grand Rapids, 1998)