



LIFE GROUPS 2019

NLC Life Group Study

Week of February 17, 2019
GOD NEVER SAID THAT |
God Just Wants Me To Be Happy

Life Group Schedule

15 MIN Eat, Meet & Greet

15 MIN Ice Breaker: **DESERT ISLAND**. Instructions: You've been exiled to a deserted island for a year. In addition to the essentials, you may take one piece of music, one book (which is not the Bible) and one luxury item you can carry with you, (i.e., not a boat to leave the island!). What would you take and why?' Share your answers.

TRANSITION: As you're gathering, spend some time in worship & prayer.

OPENING PRAYER

45–60 MIN | GOD NEVER SAID THAT | GOD JUST WANTS ME TO BE HAPPY

- Examples of things God has *never* said:
 - › Everything happens for a reason.
 - › God will not give you more than you can handle.
 - › Sex is bad.
 - › God wants your money.

REVIEW PSALM 68:3

THE FALSE THEOLOGY OF HAPPINESS

- I Feel Happy So it Must Be Okay
 - › Short-term happiness, but long-term misery.
- I Don't Feel Happy So I Need To Escape
 - › From: Discomfort, pain, risk, delay, inconvenience, suffering, obstacles.
 - › To: Church hopping, marriage hopping, job hopping, relationship hopping, diet hopping, exercise hopping.
- I Am Not Happy So God Is Not Good
 - › We blame God for not giving us what we want. You may think this way: "You are only a good God when you do what I think You need to do when I want You to do it." Or, "You are the Lord of my life if I agree with Your timing."
- I Know What Makes Me Happy.
 - › If the goal of my life is to be my opinion of happy, then God exists to serve me.

TRUTH: WE EXIST TO SERVE HIM.

- If being happy isn't the goal, what IS the goal of our lives?
 - › **REVIEW 1 PETER 1:14-16**
- **HOLY:** Means sacred, consecrated, or set apart—the opposite of common.
 - › Holy God: God is set apart from humanity.

- › Holy Bible: There's no other book like it.
- › Holy Spirit: Searches the deep things of God; you can't get it anywhere else.
- › Holy Ground: A different kind of ground; the ground of the Lord.
- God is looking for people who are consecrated, set apart for His use.
 - › It does NOT mean you are better than others, but it DOES mean you are different.
- Holy vs. Happy
 - › The people who seem holy don't look happy, and the people who seem happy don't look holy!
 - › The goal of my life is to become HOLY. As I become HOLY, I will become truly HAPPY.
 - › Happiness is the outcome of a life of holiness. Don't pit holiness and happiness against each other.

HOW CAN WE LIVE HOLY AND HAPPY?

1. Live With A Clean Heart.
 - Live pure and innocent. Have no secrets; nothing to hide.
REVIEW PHILIPPIANS 2:15; PSALM 23:3-4
 - First thing Adam and Eve did after they sinned was hide, because of guilt and shame.
 2. Live With a Confident Spirit.
 - Confident in God, in who God says you are, about who you are in Christ.
REVIEW 1 THESSALONIANS 2:4
 - **COMPETING VOICES**
 - › The Voice of Comparison, of the Culture, of the Critic, of the Crowd.
REVIEW LUKE 23:20-24
 - The world needs more confident messengers of God.
 3. Live With a Clear Mission.
 - Being part of a mission bigger than ourselves, God is calling all of us to make a difference.
REVIEW 2 TIMOTHY 4:6
- Q1.** Do you believe at your core that God wants you to be happy?
- Q2.** Of the three main points made in this week's teaching (Live with a clean heart, a confident spirit, and a clear mission), which of these challenges you the most and why?

PRAY OVER NEEDS, ANNOUNCEMENTS