



“The Lies We Tell”

Fall Circle Groups | Week 3

***Leader Note:** This season, we are simplifying the format to allow for organic group discussion. We will keep God’s word central but will allow room for leaders to flex their facilitating muscles. Let’s get ready for a great conversation!*

OPEN IN PRAYER & ICEBREAKER

MESSAGE SUMMARY

“How are you? Blessed and Highly favored of the Lord. I’m great!” How many times have we heard or even said this ourselves after we have just finished arguing with our spouse or kids? Or you just lost your job or had an unexpected bill come in the mail? Too often we allow a virtual reality to be the story that we tell not just others but ourselves. We become so consumed with “keeping people out of our business” or “trying to keep up with the proverbial Joneses” that we begin to believe our own **LIES!** It’s time out for telling and believing the lies that we have masked as our truth.

Key Scripture:

- John 8:31-36
- Hebrews 4:14-16; Romans 12:1-2, Romans 8:36, Romans 6:1-11, Revelation 12:11, Genesis 32:24-32

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Point #1: When we avoid the truth of what we are struggling with, we lie to ourselves and others. We cannot truly achieve wholeness and be helped if we are not honest about where we are. It’s time to stop lying to ourselves!

- **Scripture:** Hebrews 4:14-16; Romans 12:1-2, Romans 8:36,
- Oftentimes, we tell “lies” because we are still in process in a particular area. We want to show others the “finished process” rather than exposing our weaknesses. But there is a difference between public knowledge and private process.
- **Jesus was tempted and identifies with the struggles we face, so it’s ok to be honest about what is going on in your life. How do these scriptures challenge the “stigma” or mindset that Christians shouldn’t struggle with sin.**



Point #2: Our past does not define us, but instead creates an opportunity for Christ to redefine our lives. Rooting ourselves in the word of God allows us to see ourselves the way Christ sees us, reinforcing our newfound freedom.

- **Scripture:** Romans 6:1-11, Revelation 12:11
- We all have a role to play in God's kingdom, and in order to be most effective, we must operate from a place of identity and freedom in Christ.
- While everyone's process may look different, we must accept what God's word says about us rather than the lies we tell ourselves.
- We must renew our minds and grab hold to the freedom that we have in Jesus. We are no longer a slave to things of our past.
- **What do these scriptures say about your freedom in Christ? Do your thoughts line up with God's thoughts, or do you find it difficult to accept God's truth about you? In what areas of your identity/character is God redefining in your life?**

***Take a moment to break the lies and share the truth! Be sensitive to the details that your group members share and accept their truth without judgement.**

Point #3: Once we understand our point of struggle, we must do the work. Choosing God's will rather than our own, allows us to walk with confidence in who He's created us to be. Jacob WRESTLED for his name change, and so must we. We have come too far to give away our destiny!

- **Scripture:** Jacob wrestles with the angel. Genesis 32:24-32
- Changing our mindset and walking in our God-given destinies takes time. It is a process that requires a level of action from each of us individually. Jacob toiled through the night and was determined not to leave the way that he came.
- **Do you identify with Jacob and refuse to let go of the hope that there is more to life? How does this scripture shed new light on the importance of participating in your own freedom journey?**

***As a group, choose a scripture to stand on and keep each other encouraged to continue walking in truth. In what practical ways can fight for your freedom this week together?**

CONCLUSION & CHALLENGE

We are the descendants of Abraham and joint heirs of Christ. Christ's blood has washed us clean and we've been renewed. This doesn't mean that we won't face obstacles in life. However, we are not the things that we have done or the person we used to be. Christ has set us free (John 8:36). It's our responsibility to live in that freedom and share the good news with others. Let's stop telling lies, address the areas holding us back, and walk in our destiny as children of God!



This week's challenge & questions to consider:

This week, let's meditate on this scripture, ask ourselves these questions and practice walking in our freedom:

35 Now a slave has no permanent place in the family, but a son belongs to it forever.

³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. - John 8:35-36

- Are there areas of bondage that the Lord is asking me to repent of so that I might begin a journey of freedom with Him? Invite Him to show you what freedom could look like for the healed version of you.

****Thanks for joining us for Week #3 of Circle Groups. Check the Relentless App for upcoming services and events and your group leader for the next meeting.***

CLOSE IN PRAYER