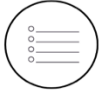




SPRING WEEK 6 | May 2-3, 2026

**LEADER NOTES**

Leader Reminder: Success this week is hearing from everyone and keeping God's Word at the center.

Essentials Training Excerpt: *From Insight to Obedience*

Great Life Group discussions don't just build insight. **They create opportunities for people to notice where God is already inviting obedience.** As you lead this week, help your group move from general ideas about humility, sacrifice, and faith into one clear next step with one real person or situation.

Often growth happens less through dramatic moments and more through ordinary choices:

- laying down a preference
- serving quietly
- initiating care
- trusting God instead of forcing an outcome

Your role is **not to** pressure people into change, but to **help them recognize** where Jesus may already be calling them to respond.

**UPCOMING EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- ◇ **2026 Men's Conference** – Join us for the North Coast Men's Conference at the Vista Campus on Friday, June 19 and Saturday, June 20, 2026, for a weekend designed to help men recharge and refocus on God's call, featuring three sessions team-taught by Pastor Chris Brown and guest speaker Pastor Larry Acosta, along with worship, food, events. Bring your friends, neighbors, son, or Life Group, and choose to stay overnight with onsite camping for campers or tents. Go to Northcoastchurch.com or the North Coast app to register.
- ◇ **Ready to Make an Impact?** – Each Life Group quarter we invite all of our Life Groups to make an impact through serving together with one of our Local Impact partners. Has your Life Group picked an Impact Project yet? From packing toiletry kits and sack lunches to hosting bingo nights at the senior center, building beautification, meal delivery and so much more, the North Coast Impact website has hundreds of service opportunities in your area! Learn more in the North Coast Church app or at northcoastchurch.com

LEADER DISCUSSION GUIDE

May 2-3, 2026

WARM UP



1. In the passage this weekend, Jesus followed the “rule” and paid the temple tax even though He didn’t have to. What’s one rule growing up that you loved following and one rule you secretly enjoyed breaking?

- **Additional Thought:** The warm up questions play an important role of easing your group back into discussion. They assist in lowering the groups defenses and promote vulnerability.

2. This weekend, we heard about laying down our rights and freedoms. What's a small, everyday example of laying down your freedoms and putting someone first, like letting someone else go before you in a line?

3. Was there anything that surprised you or challenged you in this weekend’s message?

KNOW IT



Read Philippians 2:1-11

1. Paul tells the Philippians to put others before themselves in the example of Jesus, having the same mindset as Him. Looking at verses 6-8, name three things that describe the mindset we are to have.

- **Additional Thought:** The discussion could drift into “just try harder” territory. Bring it back to: Jesus is not only our example, He is also our source of transformation.
- **Additional Questions:** Which of these come naturally to you? Who have you seen model these verses in everyday life?
- **Additional Scripture:** Mark 10:45 - *For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.*

2. Keeping in mind both the passage that was taught this weekend, Matthew 17:22-27, and Philippians 2:1-11 above, what stands out to you about what Jesus chose to do and not to do in these passages?

- **Additional Thought:** Jesus had every right to exalt Himself, yet repeatedly chose humility, surrender, and service.
- **Conversational Caution:** People may drift towards generalities and miss the cost of the choices Jesus made. Help them notice:
 - He knowingly walked toward suffering.
 - He absorbed inconvenience.
 - He restrained His rights.
- **Additional Questions:** What surprises you most about Jesus' choices in these passages? What rights or privileges did Jesus willingly lay down? Which is harder for you: surrendering your rights, serving quietly, or obeying when misunderstood?

3. Go back and pick one verse in Philippians 2 that challenges you the most. Explain why being like Jesus is going to be difficult according to that verse.

- **Conversational Caution:** If the discussion slows down, you may want to use the “popcorn” method or ask the group to go around one at a time and share the answer they wrote down. #3 is a powerful prompt that moves the discussion from observation to expected future action.

SHARE IT



1. Have you seen someone in your life put others before themselves or lay down their rights in a significant way? What did the person do?

- **Conversational Caution:** Avoid turning to drift into hero worship. The goal is not to glorify a person, but to recognize Christ-like humility and sacrificial love reflected through them. Gently steer admiration toward the character and values displayed.

2. What are the freedoms or rights in your life that would be the hardest for you to lay down for someone else?

- **Additional Question:** What are some everyday "rights" or preferences we hold tightly without realizing it?
- **Conversational Caution:** Be aware of the possibility that this question could give way to a political debate. Keep the conversation focused on personal discipleship and relational sacrifice.

LIVE IT



1. Now that we just studied how to lay down our rights, freedoms, and privileges the way Jesus did, what are one or two simple ways to do that this week?

- **Additional Thought:** If people struggle to think of examples, guide them through these categories:
 - Time - Slowing down to help someone; Making room for a needed conversation
 - Comfort - Serving when it's inconvenient; Choosing patience when tired
 - Control - Letting others lead; Not insisting on your way

2. Who is it that you think God has brought into your life intentionally that you need to start doing this for? Take time as a group praying for this.

- **Group Dynamic Tip:** This could feel highly personal and exposing to some. Naming a specific person could reveal unresolved responsibility, avoidance, relational tension, or even conviction. Remember to welcome honesty and give grace.



Why We Don't Want To Be Like Jesus

The truth that no one could accept:

Matthew 17:22-23, Exodus 30:11-16, Hebrews 12:2, Romans 3:23-24, 6:23, 10:9-13, 12:1-2

The Son of **MAN** // Is going to be **BETRAYED**.

Only in understanding the **DEATH** of our **CREATOR** will we
find our **LIFE**.

The truth lived out in real life:

Matthew 17:24-27, Romans 8:32

There is a huge difference between knowing our **RIGHTS** and **FREEDOM**
in Christ and knowing what to **DO WITH THEM**.

The freedom, privileges, and rights of a Christ follower are
meant to be used to **FREE** others, not **PROTECT** self.

Philippians 2:1-11:

John 13:1-20, 35:

Matthew 26:36-46:

Acts 10, 15 & 16:

1 Corinthians 8, 9 & 10:

Philippians 4:14-19: God will **PROVIDE** when **SACRIFICES** are made.

Revelation 5:2-10: The **LION** of Judah is actually a **BLOODIED LAMB**.