DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE

OCTOBER 25 - 31

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE:

As disciples, we're called not just to be informed but to be transformed into people who look more like Jesus—in our homes, our workplaces, and our communities. This guide helps you apply what we're learning at Lakepointe to your weekly rhythms. Use it to engage in daily Bible reading, have meaningful conversations with your group, and take clear next steps in following Jesus.

WEEKLY SUMMARY

As we continue our series Into the Breach, Jesus encounters a rich young ruler in Mark 10:17–27 who appears to have everything but lacks the one thing that matters most: wholehearted surrender to God. His attachment to wealth reveals that something has taken priority over obedience to Christ. Like the rich young ruler, we must examine our hearts and identify anything competing with our devotion to Jesus.

God has not called us to waste our lives pursuing temporary pleasures, possessions, status, or success, but to invest them in what matters for eternity. Following Jesus requires us to trust His Word above our own desires and obey His calling, even when it costs us something. As we surrender what holds us back, we discover that what Christ offers is far greater than anything we leave behind. This week, take a step of faith, release what competes with Christ, and embrace the life God has called you to live—one fully surrendered to Jesus and faithfully poured out for His glory.

RESOURCES:

- Sermon: **Into The Breach | October 24-25 | Pastor Josh Howerton**
- Daily Bible Reading: *Follow along with our 21 Days of Prayer Devotional in the Lakepointe App*
- Podcast: **Pastor DISMANTLES Viral Feminist LIE That's Destroying Marriages | Live Free Ep. 99**

KEY VERSE:

"Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

— Mark 10:21

GROUP DISCUSSION

CONVERSATION STARTER:
What's something you were talked into buying or trying that didn't live up to the hype?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What has God shown you this week in your **daily devotions**?
- **Read Mark 10:17-22.** The rich young ruler had wealth, status, and a good reputation, but he still came to Jesus looking for something more. Why can people have so much going for them and still feel empty? What are things we can be tempted to turn to in hopes of finding what only Christ can provide?
- **Read Matthew 6:19-21**. Jesus teaches that where our treasure is, our heart will follow. How can we recognize when something has taken too high a place in our lives? What's one thing that could hold you back from following Jesus with everything?
- **Read 1 John 2:15-17**. John warns against the lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. How do you see these temptations in our culture? Which is the greatest struggle for you: wanting to experience something, have something, or be someone?
- **Read Philippians 3:7-8**. Paul considered everything a loss compared to knowing Christ. How have you experienced greater freedom, joy or purpose through obedience? When counting the cost of following Jesus how can we keep this joy before us?
- **Read James 1:22-25.** James challenges us to be doers of God's word, not just hearers. What is one thing from God's word that you want to put into practice this week?

WEEKLY CHALLENGE

This week, set aside time to listen to the hymn *I Surrender All*. As you worship, ask God to reveal any areas of your life that you need to surrender to Him. Consider opening your hands as a physical expression of surrender.

If God brings something specific to mind, write it down. Throughout the week, continue bringing it to Him in prayer and ask what step of obedience He may be calling you to take.

PRAYER GUIDE

- **Into the Breach** - Pray for what God wants to do both in and through the church and your group in this season
- **Encounter: Advanced Commitment Night** - That God would prepare our church for this time of prayer, worship and commitment on November 4th

LIVE FREE PODCAST

DEEPER DIVE INSIGHTS FROM LIVE FREE PODCAST EPISODE 99

Pastor DISMANTLES Viral Feminist LIE That's Destroying Marriages

In Episode 99, Pastors Josh Howerton and Paul Cunningham, joined by Miles Murphy, discuss navigating Halloween with biblical discernment, respecting personal convictions, and recognizing opportunities to share Christ. They explore the Rich Young Ruler's struggle to surrender wealth, challenging believers to pursue eternal purpose over temporary success. The conversation also examines the role of the Ten Commandments in pointing us toward Jesus and guiding Christian living. Finally, they confront cultural messages about sexuality, relationships, and marriage, emphasizing redemption, biblical truth, and faithfulness to God's design.

Practice Discernment Without Compromising Conviction | Deut. 18:9–14, Romans 14:5–6
Christians must approach culture with biblical wisdom, rejecting what dishonors God while recognizing opportunities for redemption. Halloween illustrates how believers can maintain clear boundaries while respecting differences in personal conviction.

- Receive, Reject, or Redeem: Evaluate cultural practices through Scripture.
- Reject spiritual darkness: Avoid witchcraft, divination, and anything celebrating evil.
- Respect convictions: Don't violate your conscience or impose personal preferences on others.
- Guard your heart: A conscience that never feels conviction may be spiritually desensitized.
- Redeem opportunities: Use cultural moments to build relationships and share Christ.

Don't Trade Eternal Purpose for Temporary Satisfaction | Mark 10:17–27, Matthew 19:27–30
The Rich Young Ruler had everything the world values but lacked the life only Jesus provides. His unwillingness to surrender his wealth reveals how temporary attachments can keep us from experiencing the eternal significance of following Christ.

- Identify idols: Anything we refuse to surrender can compete with our devotion to Jesus.
- Recognize true fulfillment: Wealth, influence, and achievement cannot satisfy our deepest needs.
- Don't waste your life: Avoid doing nothing, doing everything, or pursuing the wrong things.
- Live eternally minded: Invest in what will matter beyond this life.
- Remember the gospel: Salvation rests in what Jesus has done, not what we accomplish.

God's Commands Reveal Our Need for Christ | Matthew 5:17–28, Galatians 3:23–25
The Ten Commandments reveal God's moral standards and expose humanity's need for a Savior. Though Christians are no longer under the Mosaic Covenant, God's law continues to restrain evil, reveal sin, and guide believers toward Christlike living.

LIVE FREE PODCAST

DEEPER DIVE INSIGHTS FROM LIVE FREE PODCAST EPISODE 99

- Understand the covenant: Christians aren't under the Mosaic Covenant, but God's moral standards remain relevant.
- Look beyond behavior: Jesus addresses both outward obedience and inward motives.
- Recognize the law's purposes: It restrains evil, reveals sin, and guides godly living.
- Depend on grace: God's commands cannot earn salvation; they reveal our need for Jesus.
- Obey from faith: True obedience flows from a relationship with Christ.

Choose God's Design Over Culture's Promises | Ephesians 5:25–33, Genesis 2:24
The pastors contrast the gospel's transforming power with cultural messages that prioritize personal gratification. Through a testimony of redemption and a discussion of modern relationship advice, they emphasize biblical truth, covenant faithfulness, and God's design for marriage.

- Celebrate redemption: No one is beyond the transforming power of Jesus.
- Examine influences: The voices we follow shape our beliefs and relationships.
- Reject empty promises: Sexual freedom and endless alternatives cannot guarantee fulfillment.
- Honor marriage: Biblical marriage reflects Christ's sacrificial love and commitment.
- Seek godly wisdom: Learn from spiritually mature believers who model faithfulness.

> **Ask Jesus what He wants you to do. And then whenever He speaks, just do whatever He tells you. It's always going to be worth it.**
> **— Pastor Josh Howerton**

RESOURCES

- **John Piper —** Don't Waste Your Life / Passion OneDay 2000 sermon
- **C. S. Lewis —** The Weight of Glory
- **Richard Wurmbrand —** Voice of the Martyrs
- **Strategic Launch Network (SLN) —** Text MAP to 20411 to find a local church
- **Into the Breach —** 21 Days of Prayer & Resources – https://lakepointe.church/ITBonline
- **LIVE FREE Podcast —** 2 Pastors DEBATE If Christians Should Watch Movies About WITCHCRAFT & MAGIC?! // https://youtu.be/hkVNeF3hOvE