DISCIPLESHIP GUIDE

OCTOBER 18 - 24

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

This week, we are kicking off a new series called **Into the Breach**—a discipleship initiative for our church. Isaiah 58:12 is our key verse, describing God's people as those who "repair the breach" and restore what has been broken. That same calling is ours today. We are called to run into the breach, both in our own lives and in the world around us. Through faith in Jesus, we have been given the power to stand against an enemy who wants to steal, kill, and destroy. We fight against this, bringing God's truth, hope, and restoration into the broken places. We are here today because generations before us were willing to step into the breach. They followed Jesus, fought for what mattered, and faithfully repaired breaches. Now, it's our turn. God is calling us to run into the breach—to allow Him to restore what is broken in our own lives and then to step courageously into the brokenness around us.

RESOURCES:

- Sermon: **Into The Breach | October 17-18 | Pastor Josh Howerton**
- Daily Bible Reading: *To follow along each day, download the Lakepointe App*
  - **Isaiah 58 | Nehemiah 1 | Nehemiah 2 | Nehemiah 3 | Nehemiah 4**
- Podcast: **Is it TRUE that Noah's Ark Has Been DISCOVERED "100% Confirmed"? ft. Jeremiah Johnston | Live Free Ep. 98**

KEY VERSE:

"And your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to dwell in."

— Isaiah 58:12

GROUP DISCUSSION

CONVERSATION STARTER:
You're in an action movie and headed into a high-stakes battle. You get to bring one friend, one family member, and one movie character. Who makes the cut?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What has God shown you this week in your **daily bible reading**?
- **Read Isaiah 58:12**. When you see a breach in the world around you, are you more likely to talk about it, run from it, or repair it? How is God challenging you to respond differently?
- **Read Nehemiah 1:1-6**. How does Nehemiah respond when he hears that Jerusalem's wall is broken down and the gates have been destroyed? How do spiritual rhythms prepare us for the battle God calls us to?
- **Read John 10:10**. What is one area in your life that the enemy has broken into? What's at stake if you ignore or do nothing to address this problem?
- **Read James 5:19-20**. Who is someone that stepped "into the breach" in your life and made an impact on you spiritually? What about your life is different because of their faithfulness?
- How can our group uniquely challenge and encourage one another to fully lean in over the next five weeks?

WEEKLY CHALLENGE

This week, Pastor Josh challenged us to take three intentional steps during the *Into the Breach* series :

- *Show Up:* Attend and engage all five weeks.
- *Seek God:* Pray about what God is calling you to do.
- *Take Action:* Listen to God and obey him as he leads.

Take a moment to write in the front of your Discipleship Experience Guide how you want to be intentional to commit over these five weeks. Then, write a personal prayer asking God to give you the courage to trust Him and take your next step of obedience.

PRAYER GUIDE

- Into the Breach - Pray for what God wants to do both in and through the church and your group in this season
- Merge Weekend - Pray for the engaged couples who participate to be equipped and strengthened to build a strong foundation for their marriage

LIVE FREE PODCAST

DEEPER DIVE INSIGHTS FROM LIVE FREE PODCAST EPISODE 98

Is it TRUE that Noah's Ark Has Been DISCOVERED "100% Confirmed"? (ft. Jeremiah Johnston)

In Episode 98, Pastors Josh Howerton, Carlos Erazo, and Paul Cunningham explore God's call to become repairers of what is broken, beginning with our own hearts and families. Through Isaiah 58, they discuss resisting spiritual compromise, standing firm against darkness, and living in the victory Jesus secured through the cross. Then Dr. Jeremiah Johnston joins the conversation to investigate viral claims that Noah's Ark has been discovered in Turkey, examining the evidence and the importance of biblical discernment. Ultimately, the conversation points beyond archaeology to Scripture's reliability, God's protection, and the salvation offered through Jesus Christ.

Repair the Breach, Starting Within | Isaiah 58:12; Romans 12:2

God calls His people to restore what is broken, beginning in their own hearts and families. Through Isaiah 58, Pastor Josh challenges believers to confront spiritual compromise before seeking to influence the world.

- Called to restore: Isaiah 58:12 describes God's people as repairers of broken places.
- Resist compromise: Like Daniel in Babylon, believers must remain faithful amid cultural pressure.
- Recognize strongholds: Unaddressed spiritual footholds can grow into areas of bondage.
- Begin at home: Personal restoration prepares us to help restore others.

Live in the Victory of Jesus | Colossians 2:13–15; Ephesians 1:20–23

Jesus didn't just pay for sin on the cross; He defeated the powers of darkness. The pastors emphasize that believers can stand confidently in His authority rather than live in spiritual fear.

- Victory through the cross: Jesus triumphed over sin and spiritual powers.
- Christ reigns supreme: No spiritual opposition equals His authority.
- Called to participate: Believers carry His message of freedom into a broken world.
- One Savior, four Gospels: Carlos explains how each Gospel uniquely reveals Jesus.

Test the Evidence, Not Just the Headlines | 1 Thessalonians 5:20–21; Proverbs 18:17

Dr. Jeremiah Johnston examines viral claims that Noah's Ark has been discovered in Turkey. His investigation challenges believers to value credible evidence over sensational headlines.

- Claims aren't confirmation: Radar scans, soil samples, and geological findings remain disputed.
- Evidence matters: Physical proof, independent testing, and peer review are essential.
- Discernment protects credibility: Sharing unverified claims weakens our Christian witness.
- Truth over excitement: Biblical faith doesn't require exaggerated discoveries.

LIVE FREE PODCAST

DEEPER DIVE INSIGHTS FROM LIVE FREE PODCAST EPISODE 98

Let Evidence Strengthen Faith, Not Define It | Genesis 8:1–5; 2 Timothy 3:16–17
The pastors explore the historical details of Genesis and flood accounts found across ancient cultures. While these similarities invite further investigation, our confidence in Scripture should not depend on archaeological discoveries.

- Scripture provides details: Genesis records specific events, dates, and locations surrounding the flood.
- Ancient accounts share similarities: Multiple cultures preserve stories of catastrophic floods.
- Evidence invites investigation: Shared traditions may reflect a common historical memory.
- Faith rests on God's Word: Disputed discoveries do not determine Scripture's reliability.

The Ark Points to Jesus, Our Salvation | Genesis 7:16; John 10:9
The discussion concludes by revealing how Noah's Ark points to God's ultimate rescue through Jesus Christ. Just as God provided a way through judgment for Noah, He offers salvation through faith in Jesus.

- God provides protection: The Lord Himself shut Noah and his family inside the ark.
- One door to salvation: Jesus identifies Himself as the door through which we are saved.
- The cross reveals mercy: The ark preserved Noah's family; Jesus bore judgment for our sin.
- Respond while there's time: Jesus uses Noah's story to call people to spiritual readiness.

> "The real Jesus died on a real cross for the real you. And if you give him your life, he can really change you forever."
>
> — Pastor Josh Howerton

RESOURCES

- Into the Breach Resources – https://lakepointe.church/ITBonline
- Book: The Jesus Discoveries – Dr. Jeremiah Johnston
- LIVE FREE Podcast — Shroud of Turin Episode: https://youtu.be/PVY6gwHLVpw
- Book: A Scientific Study of the Face of Jesus (1972) by Frank O. Adams
- Archaeological Scorecard – https://christianthinkers.com/pages/howerton