

LIFE CLASS

COAST HILLS CHURCH

God has given us a vision at Coast Hills Church, outlined below.

Vision: **Glorifying God Together**

- **Rom 15:6**, "...that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ."

through **L.I.F.E.**

- **Learning the Word – John 1:1**, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."
- **Investing into Relationships – John 13:34-35**, "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."
- **Following the Way of Christ – Luke 9:23**, "And he said to all, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me."
- **Engaging Your World – Acts 1:8**, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Thank you so much for joining us to go through our L.I.F.E. class. We hope that you will be blessed as we study in further detail the vision God has laid out for our church. Please go through the classes at a pace that makes sense to you. Make sure you have your own personal Bible so you can look up the scriptures and make notes in your Bible. We have outlined our L.I.F.E. sermon series below. We have captured the main points and scriptures of each section. We have left space in each section so you can add your notes and thoughts that stick out to you. We pray that you grow and enjoy our L.I.F.E. journey. We have provided spaces for you to fill in keywords as well as take notes. You can take notes in a journal if you would like.

Learning the Word

Part 1

Opening Scripture Reading

Psalm 19:7-11

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple; the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes; the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

The Question: Why do we want to _____ the Word?

-Notice it is “want to,” and not “have to.”

-Reading God’s Word is not like having to do a book report.

NOTES

1. **Learning the Word was the passion of the Early Church**
 - a. Acts 2:42 And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.
2. Even before the Early Church, the passion for the word **was present in the Old Testament, as shown by the Prophet Ezra**

- a. **Ezra 7:10** For Ezra had set his heart to study the Law of the Lord, and to do it and to teach his statutes and rules in Israel.
3. Ezra _____ the Word
- a. He didn't have to
 - b. He wanted to
 - c. He wanted to learn everything there was to know about God
 - d. In the first century the modern day "Ezras" were the Pharisees
 - e. However the Pharisees studied for the wrong reason. They thought the more they knew the more they were saved
 - f. However Jesus rebukes the Pharisees
 - i. **John 5:39** You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me.
 - ii. **Jesus makes it clear— the entire word of God is about Himself**
 - g. Paul writes this to the young pastor Timothy in
 - i. **2 Timothy 2:15** Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth.
 - ii. If you want know Jesus, you have to dig into Scripture

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4. Ezra _____ Scripture
- a. For Ezra it was more than just knowing about God
 - b. It was about becoming like God
 - c. We want to put God's Word into practice
 - d. When we practice God's Word, we become more like Jesus

5. Ezra _____ the Word
- a. Ezra showed the Word through his Life
 - b. St. Augustine- "The best bible anyone may read in their life is you"
 - c. Ezra spoke the Word into people's lives
 - d. Ezra taught the Word to those around him

The Answer: We are learning the Word to know Jesus, to become like Him, and express Him to others.

NOTES

1. The writer of the Gospel John wants us to understand this truth
- a. **John 1:1-2** In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.
 - i. John describes 4 things about the Word of God
 - ii. The first century Jew referred to God as "the Word"
 - iii. God spoke the world into existence
 - iv. John wants us to understand that Jesus is God

- v. John wants us to understand that by reading and studying the Word of God we might become more like Jesus

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2. His Word _____ changes us

- a. **John 1:3** All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.
- b. Words have power
 - i. The pen is mightier than the sword
 - ii. Sticks and stones may break my bones...
- c. Through the spoken Word, God created
 - i. The earth was without form
 - ii. Until Jesus spoke into existence, "let there be light"
- d. **Hebrews 1:1-3** Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high.
- e. Jesus spoke the world into existence. Jesus gives us powerful words today.
 - i. **Matthew 8**- Jesus calms the storm
 - ii. **Mark 4**- Jesus rises the dead girl
- f. **Jesus' words can change us**
 - i. **John 17:17** Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

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