



STUDY GUIDE

GENESIS: Week 15

8.31.14

[set up]

Take a moment to share any Lifehouse stories. How is your Lifehouse doing? Do you need to re-engage in prayer for the eight houses closest to you?

Pastor Josh talked this week about how God renames in a moment but living out that new name takes a lifetime. The only way to do that is to put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

What are some areas in your life that you feel you have made major progress? What are some areas in your life that you would like to see more progress? Do you feel like you are in a period of personal and spiritual stability, growth, or decline? Why is that?

[digging deeper]

In Genesis 32:22-32, God meets with Jacob and renames Jacob to Israel. Jacob means “heal-grabber” or “swindler” and Israel means “one who wrestles with God.” God then meets with Jacob again in Genesis 35:10-15 and re-renames Jacob to Israel. Why do you think God renames Jacob twice?

Fear is a major impediment to personal growth and sharing the Gospel. Read Isaiah 41:8-10. A Christian is someone who has put their faith and trust in Jesus Christ, and Scripture says the Christian has nothing to fear. It is easy to know this fact but it is hard to live it out. Why? How do we overcome fear as Christians? How do we become courageous witnesses of Christ?

Discouragement can creep in and deflate those who are following after Christ. It has been said, “You do not determine a man’s greatness by his talent or wealth, as the world does, but rather by what it takes to discourage him.” What discourages us must be a litmus test to what is closest to our hearts. What discourages you the most? How can you put on the Lord Jesus Christ in that moment?



[living it out]

Pastor Josh pointed out that the world, your family, and yourself don't need a better version of you but a little version of Christ. We are to put on Jesus Christ by simple steps of obedience. This is done not by my sheer will but by God Dependence through understanding the Living Truth of the Bible.

Pastor Josh challenged each one of us to make a simple step of obedience in our family, thought life, relationships, and spiritual practices. Share with the group a simple step of obedience you will take this week in your family, thought life, relationships, or spiritual practices.

Memorizing Romans 13:14 is a great, simple step in living up to the name of Christ. Right now in your group, memorize Romans 13:14 by reciting it out loud seven times. Here it is: "But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires."

Christ's final command before he ascended to heaven is called The Great Commission. It says, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." We are called to invite people to be baptized into the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. What concrete, simple steps will you take this week to fulfill The Great Commission?

Pray as a group and ask for the strength to put on the Lord Jesus Christ in the simple steps of obedience.