

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

PRAY TOGETHER

Father, thank You for creating each of us in Your image and giving us unique gifts to serve others and reflect Your love. As we discuss today, open our hearts to the Holy Spirit's voice, give us childlike faith to believe You can use us, and help us see where we may be holding back. Convict us with clarity and courage to take one faithful action step this week, using what You've placed in us to bring hope, mercy, and care to someone around us. In Jesus' name.

ICE BREAKER

What was a moment in your life that was a genuine surprise and delight, something you did not see coming that brought unexpected joy?

SERMON OVERVIEW



SCAN FOR
SERMON CLIP



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This week, Pastor Kurt Brodbeck launches our new series, At The Movies Unplugged, with a question: What if the hardest seasons of life are actually the moments God has been preparing us for all along? Drawing on the movie Mary Poppins Returns, we explore what it means to show up for others with purpose and intentionality, even when our own lives feel uncertain. The central biblical parallel comes from Acts 9, where we meet Tabitha, a woman whose life was defined not by a single dramatic moment but by a consistent pattern of using her gifts to serve those around her. The widows she cared for were so transformed by her presence that when she died, they held up the garments she had made as living evidence of her love. Her story challenges us to ask a simple yet weighty question: what evidence of our love and service will we leave behind? Pastor Kurt also emphasizes the critical role parents play in their children's spiritual formation, reminding them that time is limited and every week matters. Ultimately, the call is to embrace a childlike faith, trust in a God who is both good and in control, and boldly step into the purpose he has prepared for each of us, a masterpiece created in Jesus Christ to do the good works he has prepared in advance for us to do.

READ SCRIPTURE

**ACTS 9:36-43, 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12-20, MATTHEW 18:1-4, 1 PETER 4:10-11
MICAH 6:8**

CONNECT RELATIONALLY

1) Mary Poppins consistently offered the Banks family a new perspective in the middle of their hardship. Who in your life has offered you that kind of perspective during a difficult season? How did it change things for you?

2) Thomas Aquinas argued that God gives people the power to act and preserves that power, yet does not strip away their own agency. In what ways have you seen this tension between divine purpose and human choice play out in your own story?

3) The sermon asks each of us to identify the gifts God has placed within us. What do the people closest to you say your gifts are? Is there a gap between how others see your gifts and how you see them?

GROW SPIRITUALLY

4) Tabitha is described in only seven verses, yet her legacy was so powerful that the widows she served wept and showed Peter physical evidence of her care. What does it say about the nature of faithful, consistent service that a life can leave that kind of mark in so few recorded moments?

5) In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul argues that every part of the body is necessary and placed exactly where God wanted it. In what ways have you been tempted to dismiss your own gifts as less valuable than someone else's, and how does this passage challenge that thinking?

6) Jesus tells his disciples in Matthew 18 that unless they become like little children they will not enter the kingdom of heaven. What specific qualities of childlike faith do you think adults most commonly lose that Christ calls us to maintain?

LIVE GENEROUSLY

7) Tabitha used her specific gifts of craftsmanship and compassion to serve a specific group of people, the widows in her community. Who is your specific group? Who has God placed in your path, your neighborhood, at your workplace, in your family, or at your church, that you are uniquely positioned to serve?

8) The sermon uses the image of gumballs representing weeks with your children to emphasize that time is finite. How does reflecting on the limited number of weeks you have with the people you love most change the way you think about spiritual investment in those relationships?

9) Who in your life can you identify that is going through a difficult time? What is one way you can use your practical gifts to bless them this week?

TAKE ACTION

Based on our conversation today, how do you sense the Holy Spirit inviting you to take a next step in practical application? Please complete this statement, I am feeling convicted to take the following action (keep it simple):

Please invite each group member to share their action step, if they have one.

PRAY TOGETHER

Take a few minutes for each person to share a recent joy or praise, as well as something that's weighing on their heart and in need of intercession. Invite someone to pray over these requests. Be sure to share them with everyone in the group so you can continue praying for one another throughout the week.

ENGAGE TOGETHER



Valor and Abide Monthly Gatherings - This month, across all our campuses, we will launch our Men's and Women's Monthly Gatherings, Valor and Abide. These ministries are great opportunities to invite friends, neighbors, and co-workers to experience Christian fellowship at Northview. They're also a great way to meet prospective new members who are looking to join a Life Group. We offer these Gatherings across all our campuses, so take a look at when your next monthly Gathering is taking place!