

**The Great Questions of Life**  
**“What is the Meaning of Life?”**  
**For the week of February 4, 2018**  
**New City Church of LA**

**GROW & SERVE GROUP GUIDE**

**Start with Prayer**

**Get to Know One Another:** What is one thing that you do that give you a sense of delight in life?

**Discuss Your Serve Portion**

**Reflecting on the Sermon**

Pastor Kevin discussed two ways to approach the issue of meaning in our lives: (1) the modern approach; (2) the gospel approach.

The modern approach starts out with the assumption that there is no God or that God does not affect our lives. Then, the inevitable conclusion is that we are just an accident in the universe; and therefore, there is no meaning whatsoever. However, because it is difficult live without meaning, this approach seeks to *create meaning*. But, Pastor Kevin discussed a couple of problems of this approach: (1) it is not intellectually honest because at the end, there is no meaning (at the end, there is no point to it); and (2) a created meaning of life is not durable because suffering can often destroy the meaning. So, for example, if the romantic love in your marriage is your meaning of life, and if your marriage falls apart, this would destroy your meaning of life.

The gospel approach says that Jesus is the meaning of life. In John 1:1-5, John tells us that Jesus is the Word, and in the original language (Greek), it is *Logos*. The word for *Logos* is where we get the word logic; but it means more than that; it means reason for or meaning of life. Ancient Greeks debated about what the *Logos* of life is. It is in this context that John declared that Jesus is the *Logos* of life! The *Logos* is not a philosophy or an idea; it is a person. This means that Jesus is the meaning of life.

**Discussion Questions from the Sermon**

1. Have you thought about the meaning of life? Share.
2. How is the meaning of life that you create (“created meaning”) less able to deal with suffering in life than the meaning of life that Jesus gives you?
3. What struck you in the sermon? Any questions from the sermon?

## **Going Deeper: Bible Study**

1. Read John 1:1-18
2. The word for “Word” is the Greek word *Logos*, which can be translated as logic or reason for or meaning of life. When John wrote this, Greek philosophers had been debating on what the *Logos* of life is. What do we learn about the *Logos* of life from this passage?
3. What do we learn about Jesus from this passage?
4. What does it mean that he is the light? What does this mean in your life?
5. What does it mean that the *Logos* became flesh and lived among us? How does this or should this affect the way we live if we are followers of Jesus?
6. What is the reason that the *Logos* became flesh? See v. 12-13.
7. Share one thing to apply in your life from this passage or sermon.

**Share what’s going on in your life.**

**Pray for one another, the church, and your neighborhood**