

# What's Next

**The Task:** Have a conversation during week four with your group about what's next after the study.

## A. THE EXPECTATION

From day 1, the expectation for this group experience was to commit to meeting for six weeks for the duration of this series. This has not changed. However, if your group has hit it off well, you would like to continue leading the group, and you think the group would like to continue, we would like to make that easy for you. Here are a few steps to make this conversation go easier:

1. **Ask** – “The expectation for this life group experience was to meet for six weeks for the duration of this series. This has not changed, but I have enjoyed our time together and would like to continue. Would you like to continue meeting after this series is done? Understand that this an individual decision. I will contact you individually by email or the phone during the next week to find out your interest in continuing.” Reassure each group member that if they do not want to continue that it's okay, no matter what the reason.
2. **Follow-up** with everyone individually before your next meeting.
3. If your group or member(s) of your group **decide** not to continue, **encourage** them to try a life group in the future. We will have another campaign like this one in the Fall.
4. Regardless what your group decides, we hope you will schedule one more session to **celebrate** the completion of this study. Go out to dinner or do something fun (like bowling or mini-golf). There's no agenda to this meeting other than to have some unstructured fun together.

## B. NOT CONTINUING? NO WORRIES

If your group chooses not to continue studying, it's really not a problem. We do want to hear from you after the conclusion of your group to learn about your experience. This will help us improve our process to make the next campaign even better. Please let your coach or Aaron know and we will schedule a time to meet.

## C. CONTINUING? AWESOME – HERE'S YOUR NEXT STUDY

1. To make it easy for you to continue without skipping a beat have a study we recommend that will be similar in format to your current study. It's called “Christian: It's Not What You Think” by Andy Stanley
2. Videos for the next study are FREE! Here's how you can access them:

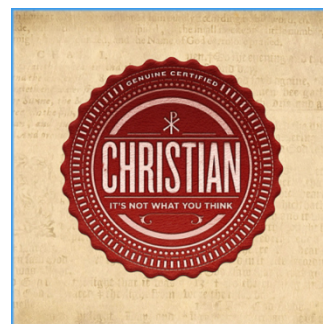


1. **Download the Anthology app on your streaming device.**

The app is available for Roku, Apple TV, Google Chromecast, iPhone and Android phones.

2. **View videos from the anthology website.** Visit: <http://anthology.study>

3. We will provide the study guides for you and they will follow the same format as this study: Hangout, Watch the Video, Discuss, and Pray.



## D. WHAT DOES CONTINUING LOOK LIKE?

1. Start small. Try the next study to see if you would like take a step toward become a long-term life group.
  - a. **What does it mean to become a long-term life group?** A long-term life group applies the Nine Group Essentials, organically grows, and births new life groups.
  - b. **What are the Nine Group Essentials?** We're glad you asked! The Nine Group Essentials are best practices we've learned make a positive and healthy group experience. They are:
    1. **Grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ.**
    2. **Cultivate relationships within the group.**
    3. **Promote participation by keeping everyone involved.**
    4. **Provide pastoral care for each other.**
    5. **Invite others to join your group.**
    6. **Increase evangelistic behavior.**
    7. **Serve together.**
    8. **Prepare others for leadership.**
    9. **Transition well as you multiply or birth new life groups.**
  - c. **What do you mean by transitioning?** As you apply essentials five, six, and eight your group will naturally grow. This growth is positive, but can feel difficult to manage. This is why we encourage groups to multiply or birth (start) new groups with existing members of your current group. This takes time to develop and we will help you every step of the way!
  - d. **How will you help me as the leader along the way?** In addition to the coaching you've received from an experienced leader, our Life Groups Director, Aaron, will provide you training throughout your time as a leader, meet with you at least two times a year, and host huddles with our other life group leaders four times a year.
2. Some best practices as you continue.
  - a. **Revisit the group agreement, discuss and decide how you plan to meet moving forward.** This may change from how you did the first study. It's okay to take a week off every now and then, but be careful not to take too many breaks as you can lose momentum fast. We think the best practice to have a healthy group experience is to continue meeting weekly. Discuss and decide as a group what would work best for your life group.
  - b. **A successful life group takes commitment from all group members.** Committing to the group is a very helpful step of spiritual growth. The more you attend, the deeper your friendships will become, the more God can use your group to help you grow to be more like Jesus, and you will have a group of friends to be with you when life gets hard.
  - c. **Celebrate as you move into May and set a date to resume meeting.** You may want to continue meeting through the summer you or may want to take a break. Many groups take a break during the summer from regular meetings and instead gather socially. Decide as a group what works best for you. Get out those calendars and set any dates you will meet during the summer and into September.