

Week Beginning: 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2020

Worship Series: #1 in series **TAKE-OFF**  
the next stage of living the vision begins

living sharing growing

### Theme Verse

Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

John 14:6

### Remember This Week

Jesus knows both the vision and destination he has called us to as his people. Let him plan and surprise you with a bespoke discipleship itinerary that takes into account your gifts, your interests, your personality and challenges you in living, sharing and growing in ways that will terrify, surprise, thrill and lead all of us together as one Church on a continuous adventure of grace.



**Show me your ways, Lord,  
teach me your paths.**

**Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Saviour,  
and my hope is in you all day long.**

**Psalms 25:4-5**

God, prepare our hearts for what you have for us next and give us a heart of faith to go where you call us to go, for you Lord know the way, you lead us in the truth and you guide us to experience the fullness of life that comes in your name. Bless our time together that we may be excited for the journey you have prepared for us. Amen.



1. *Share your highs and lows since you last met with one another.*
2. *Share how you went with your living purposefully from last time?*
3. *Are you an adventurous or cautious person by nature? Why do you think that is?*
4. *What is the most adventurous thing you have undertaken in your life?*
5. *When you go on a trip, do you plan your own itinerary, use a travel agent or a combination of the two?*

The Spirit of Adventure lies in each one of us. We may ignore it for a while, we may even suppress it but there comes a time where there is a yearning for something more, where a dreaming about new horizons fills us with a restlessness to take-off of an exciting, unusual or daring adventure. There has always been a sense of adventure in our journey as LifeWay, and God is calling us again to Take-Off on a decade long journey toward the vision he has for us. The vision hasn't changed but the journeys we take together to get there....well they are up to you and your appetite to visit new waypoints, embark on new experiences and embrace new opportunities. So as we prepare to Take-Off on the next leg of our adventure, God invites us to sit down with the best travel agent going around, who has been there, done that and has all the insider tips to guide us it getting to our destination and Planning the Itinerary on a journey that will be life-transforming and eternity shaping for ourselves and others.

Read John 14:1-6



6. *What key words/thoughts/ideas/questions arise for you as you hear this text?*
7. *How does the world react to Jesus claims in v.6? How do you react to Jesus' statement?*
8. *Do you see these verses as being exclusive or inclusive? What evidence do you find in these verses of your answer?*



Read John 13

9. *Think of these words from the perspective of the journey that the disciples are about to go on. A journey that Jesus knows. Re-read 14:1-6. How does that change the way you read/understand 14:1-6?*
10. *How willing are you to let Jesus plan the whole itinerary of your life? Explain.*
11. *What part of LifeWay's journey so far has been the most exciting/scary/adventurous in your opinion?*
12. *If you were in charge of choosing the next step of LifeWay's (or your own Church's) adventure, in which direction would you like to see the community go?*

Read Acts 1:1-8

When Jesus went on a journey back to his heavenly Father at the Ascension, he spoke these words to those left on earth to continue his mission to the world. His disciples were already filled with the Holy Spirit. They already believed that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the Living God. But to continue his mission and reach the final destination, they need the power of the Holy Spirit for the ministry to which they have been called - making disciples of all nations, baptising and teaching, and being his living witnesses to the ends of the earth. The strength they need and the power required for this task doesn't not come from within, but from without, as a gift from a loving God who has planned the itinerary for his people.

13. *What confidence does this give you for your journey ahead? How might it change your willingness to step out on this next adventure of faith?*
14. *What do these verses tell us about the scope of the adventure we are to embark on?*
15. *In what ways could we as a Church reach out in ever expanding ways that have an ever growing influence in the world?*



One of the great metaphors that the Bible employs is that of a journey. From Genesis to Revelation, the Bible is full of people on the move as journey after journey is recorded and remembered. Abraham goes on a journey from Ur of the Chaldees to to the Promised Land. Many generations later, the people of Israel journey from slavery and oppression in Egypt into the land promised to them. Along the way the choices they made led them on journeys into captivity before going back again to the Promise Land. In the NT, Jesus journeyed from heaven to earth to 'pitch his tent among us.' He is constantly on the move, journeying through Palestine as he preached the Good News of the Kingdom of God, showing people what the Kingdom looks like by his deeds of love and power. After the Resurrection, Paul and the apostles journey all over the Roman Empire, and their message reaches to the ends of the earth – their story and journey now connecting with ours. Journeying is a part of who we are as humans. We make sense of our lives by understanding them as journeys, as the unfolding story of who we are and what we do in the world.

16. *Think of your own journey. Choose 5 events or encounters or moments that have shaped your journey and led you to this point and share with the group.*
17. *What have you learnt about God and yourself through these events.*



- \* Praise God for his willingness to be with us on our journey. Thank Jesus for planning the itinerary for our mission adventure and leading us on the way. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you daily with the power you need to step out and go where he calls you.
- \* Pray with thanks to God for the journey you have been on so far and for his guidance and presence in that journey.
- \* for our Church that as we prepare to launch Vision2030: Beyond Limits that God will lead, direct and protect us on the journey and that we would be a people who are living, sharing and growing in his way and having an ever expanding witness in the world.
- \* for LifeWay Music and the first EP about to be launched, that God would use those songs to meet people where they are at in their journey and lead them deeper in his way that their lives may be transformed by his grace.

**But the plans of the LORD stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.' Psalm 33:11**

Turn to the person next to you and make the sign of the cross on the palm of their hand or forehead as you say:

Name, the Lord has an adventure planned just for you. Amen.

