



# LIFEGROUPS

Series: *The Long Story Short*

Scripture: *Various*

Date: February 22-23, 2020

Message: *What Happened?*

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## —[ LET'S START ]—

We have begun an exciting new series where Pastor Dale is going to take us through the story of the entire Bible in just three short weeks. The Bible isn't like any other book. Hebrews 4:12 says, ""For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart." When you think about the entirety of the Bible, what are some of passages that have made the greatest impact on your life? Why?

## —[ LET'S TALK ]—

1. **GRATITUDE AND PRAYER:** What happened last week for which you are thankful? What challenges do you see in your life? Your family? The World? Thank God for the beautiful ways that He has been at work. Pray for the challenges that those in your group are currently facing.
2. How would you describe the Bible to someone who has never read it?
3. Pastor Dale summarized the Old Testament this weekend. What are some of the major themes of the Old Testament? What struck you most about this weekend's teaching? Why?
4. Read Genesis 1:31. What does this verse reveal to you about God's creation? Why do you think God created people who He knew would eventually rebel against Him?
5. Genesis 3:15 and 15:6 are two key passages from the Old Testament. Why are these verses important to the story of the Bible?
6. Read Ezekiel 20:8-9. What do these verses teach us about God? What do they teach us about people? What could we learn about ourselves from these verses?
7. Jesus summarized the Law and the Prophets in Matthew 7:12. Read that verse. How is this a true summary of the Law and the Prophets?
8. Dale said that the major theme of the Old Testament is that God purposes to be faithful and rescue the world - even a world in rebellion against him! How have you seen this to be true in your own life? How does this truth about God make you feel today?

## —[ LET'S ACT ]—

We'll never truly experience the God of the Bible if we don't spend time in the Bible. This week, let's commit to spending at least a few minutes every day in God's Word. Come back next time prepared to share what God has been teaching you in His Word.

## —[ SERMON REVIEW ]—

- Tanak is the Hebrew term for what we commonly refer to as the Old Testament. In the Hebrew Bible the Old Testament is divided up into three portions:
  - The Torah Genesis – Deuteronomy.
  - The Nevi'im, which includes Joshua, Judges, 1+2 Samuel, 1+2 Kings. And a second part which has prophets like Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel and 12 more prophets from Hosea to Malachi.
  - The Ketuvim, which includes Psalm, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Job, Daniel and 1+2 Chronicles.
- Torah
  - God revealed that in the beginning everything was good.
  - God puts Adam and Eve in the garden and points out a special tree – the tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. God gives a prohibition not to eat its fruit.
  - The serpent raises the issue of God's character.
  - Many people ask, "Why the test?" It was not a test but a tool for protection. God gave the tree and the truth to combat the enemy and rule over the serpent.
  - Trees were placed in the ancient world where justice and judgement were wrought.
  - Humans fail to protect. They are exiled and so begins the plot.
  - Violence and immorality lead to Noah and the flood which leads to more failure and Babel.
  - God has another couple, Abraham and Sarah. He makes a covenant and promises to bless the world through them. This promise heartens to what was foreshadowed in Genesis 3:15.
  - Abraham believes the promise – Genesis 15:6
  - Isaac – Jacob x 12 sons and journey to Egypt.
  - Enslaved in Egypt.
  - Israel enslaved to become a nation, to recognize the need for deliverance and to live humbly realizing others are oppressed too.
  - Moses is a type of deliverer: a prophet, priest and king. 613 laws to be unique among people. Israel wants to be like everyone else and so do we. Even when we want to be individual and independent we are simply adapting the culture.
- Nevi'im
  - Joshua like Moses.
  - A series of prophets, priests and kings. Some trust, most don't. Israel ends up in Babylon after failure.
  - Prophets accuse and warn.

