

Life Group Discussion Questions:

1. The **BIG IDEA** in Pastor Derek's last sermon in the Family series was:
You are not just called to hearing, but to living. What do you think Pastor Derek meant when he said, "Getting to church is not what it's all about?"
2. How does being **called to living** tie in to the other **BIG IDEAS** in this series?
You are not just called to believing but to belonging.
You are not just called to rows, but to circles.
3. The key passage for Pastor Derek's sermon was **James 1:22-25**. Let's read that together, then discuss how hearing good sermons might actually lead to our own self-deception.
4. So just hearing good sermons might lead us to think we are growing more spiritual Sunday by Sunday! In contrast to self-deception, what does the passage in the book of James say is the outcome for the doer who acts?
5. Let's read **Matthew 7:24-27**. What does Jesus say is the difference between the person who just hears, and the person who both hears and does?
6. Pastor Derek gave us 5 ways that Life Groups help us live out our faith -- 5 ways that Life Groups help us move from being just hearers to doers.
 - a. Life Groups help us **FOLLOW the scriptures**.
Pastor Derek used a verse in Paul's first letter to Timothy to remind us that the goal of our receiving good messages is not to gain knowledge. Let's read that verse to see what Scripture says is the purpose of instruction.

The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith. -1 Timothy 1:5

- b. Life Groups help us **FUEL our spiritual disciplines** (Bible reading, prayer...)
 - c. Life Groups help us **FURTHER our spiritual gifts** (mercy, hospitality...)
 - d. Life Groups help us **FRAME our trials** (relationships, sorrows...)
 - e. Life Groups help us **FULFILL our mission** (maintaining an outward focus)
- Which of these five things has your Life Group most helped you in moving from hearer to doer?
7. Has our group figured out 'shared leadership?' How can our group practice shared leadership? Who is best at hosting? Coordinating food? Caring for group

members during the week? Planning outreach events? Facilitating the lesson?
Etc.

Prayer Thought: Praise God for making us both family and friends in Christ!

Series Memory Verse: ...you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household... **Ephesians 2:1**