



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Dear Life Group Leaders,

I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and that you also have a restful New Years Day tomorrow. I'm sure some of you are eager to get back in the swing of things, so here are our Life Group materials for next week. The discussion questions focus on Luke 7:18-35 and the martyrdom of John the Baptist. John is one of the most interesting characters in the Bible, so I'm sure you'll find it a fascinating study. To help you prepare for it, we've recorded a message on the passage by John MacArthur. If you want more on the topic, you can go to his website (www.gty.org/Resources/Sermons/42-97) and download his other messages on the passage.

I also want to mention the emphasis on prayer and fasting we're going to be making at church the next few weeks. Networking with what hundreds of other churches are doing to get their priorities straight and rekindle their passion for Christ, we will be inviting you, your small group, and all of our church members to take part in Awakening 2010 - 21 days of prayer and fasting from January 10 to 31. I'll mention a little bit about it this Sunday. We'll also offer a few special opportunities for prayer during that period of time. But if you'd like to catch the vision ahead of time and share it with your group, check out their website - www.awake21.org. There you can listen to a promo about this great opportunity. If you decide that you'd like to download the materials they offer, let me know and I'll get you the login information.

Because prayer will be our church-wide emphasis in January, this week's coaching tip provides several practical suggestions for making your small group prayer time more meaningful. Please take time to read it.

Thanks again for your faithful leadership! Let us know how we can pray for you. Please pray for us too.

Happy New Year!

Pastor Gary for Pastor Glen too