



SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

October 29, 2023
“Living Letters”



OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the lives of those who have left a legacy in life and in ministry for us to follow. We thank you for the way that you moved through their hearts and that way you have shaped our lives to honor to you. Help us to consider how we will leave our legacy on those around us and on the generations to come. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

2 Corinthians 3:1-6 (NIV)

Are we beginning to commend ourselves again? Or do we need, like some people, letters of recommendation to you or from you? ²You yourselves are our letter, written on our hearts, known and read by everyone. ³You show that you are a letter from Christ, the result of our ministry, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts.

⁴Such confidence we have through Christ before God. ⁵Not that we are competent in ourselves to claim anything for ourselves, but our competence comes from God. ⁶He has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant—not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

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INTRODUCTION

The All Saints Day message, “Living Letters,” remembers those Asbury members who died in the last year who have been “living letters,” communicating their message of faith and love. As they made a difference in our lives, we carry on their witness as Christ’s “living letters” today.

Just as there have been people before us who have created opportunities for us to learn about explore, and express our faith, we are called to provide those opportunities for others. As we reflect on those who have gone before us, let us also consider the legacy that we’ll leave behind one day.

QUESTIONS

1. Who is one person who has made a personal impact on your faith? What did that person do to leave their legacy?
2. What are the things that hold you back in believing you can make a difference in someone else’s faith journey?
3. How can you live your day-to-day life in a way that displays that you are “a letter from Christ” meant to be “known and read by everyone”? (cf 2 Corinthians 3:2, 4)
4. Is it difficult to consider the legacy you’ll leave one day? If so, what makes it difficult? If not, what makes it easy?
5. When you look at others around you, what are ways that you read their lives as being “living letters” from Christ?

FINAL APPLICATION

What is one step you can take to be a “living letter” to show others who Jesus is?