



THE GOLDEN THREAD

Finding Jesus in every plot twist

SERIES COMMUNITY GUIDE

THRIVE LA CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2025

How to Use This Guide

The Golden Thread series

Finding Jesus in every plot twist

This series will take us from the starting pages of the Bible, to the final pages; from Genesis to Revelation. We will look at God’s grand story, also known as “the Kingdom story,” which is the story of God’s redemption of all creation.

From the beginning of the world, to the fall of Adam and Eve, to the calling of the nation of Israel, we will see how the Old Testament points to the coming of the promised Messiah, Jesus.

Then we will see when Jesus came as the Messiah, he established God’s kingdom in the new covenant through his death and resurrection, and now reigns from heaven.

Finally, we will look forward. One day Jesus will return to finish the blessings of the kingdom, at which time he will set up the new Eden of God’s kingdom in the new heavens and new earth.

In the meantime, we live in the already and not yet of the kingdom, serving our King and looking for his return.

Watch the Sermon

In-person on Sundays at 10am: 2234 W Temple St, Los Angeles, CA 90026

Online Live on Sundays at 10am: thriveLA.online.church

Archived: thrivelachurch.com/media

Gather Weekly

We have multiple Thrive Groups throughout Los Angeles. We encourage our groups meeting in person to share a meal together.

Discussion

In your groups you will discuss the week’s sermon and Bible readings with reflection/discussion questions designed to help you go deeper.

Join or Start a Group

Go to thrivelachurch.com/thrivegroups or Text “Groups” to 323-709-0711 to be placed in a group and to learn more.

Looking Ahead

Welcome Dessert

First Mondays of the month are Dessert Night! When you invite your friends, the best place for them is coming to Dessert Night at Pastor Katie & Andrew's house. Here they'll learn about Thrive, make some more friends, and have a chance to ask questions.

Monthly Meals

We love to share monthly meals together - it's a distinctive part of our Thrive family culture. We encourage all small groups to have a meal together, at least every 1-2 months. Also, there will be potluck days on Sundays in the upcoming months, for us to gather, fellowship, and worship together!

Save These Dates!

- Tues, Sept 8th - Dessert Night @ 6:30pm @ Alessos' house
- Sat, Sept 27th - Prayer Walk @ 9am-10:30, Thrive LA Church
- Sun, Oct 5th - Thrive Birthday Party service and celebration, 10am @ Thrive LA Church
- Tues, Oct 7th - Dessert Night @ 6:30pm @ Alessos' house

Week 1 - week of Sept 8th

Fall Small Group Re-Launch!

The New Community's Command - Love

Coming back together after summer hiatus, we are looking forward to gathering as a group on a weekly basis. **We are encouraging everyone in the group to commit to attending the next 4 weeks (rest of September)** as we as a church go through God's design for community, on Sundays and in weekly small group discussions.

For the next 4 weeks, we will be discussing the Sunday sermons and looking at Thrive's vision and values for small groups.

Our hope is to build a common understanding of God's design for community, how that is lived out at Thrive, and encourage participation. Community is built, shaped, and lived out when we all find our place and commit to caring for one another!

Opening Question

What is a highlight from your summer?

Bible

Matt 22:34-40 / John 13:1-17

Discussion

What does Jesus say about community in these passages?

What does Jesus's "love in action" look like?

Activity

Review the "Small Group Vision and Values" document, only sections "The WHAT" and "The WHY."

How can Jesus's command to love one another shape this small group?

How does being part of small group help us to grow in lifelong journey with Jesus (a process called "discipleship")?

Prayer

Pray for our small group to love one another, as Jesus teaches us. And then pray for one another's needs.

Week 2 - week of Sept 15th

The New Community's Mission - Make Disciples

Coming back together after summer hiatus, we are looking forward to gathering as a group on a weekly basis. **We are encouraging everyone in the group to commit to attending the next 4 weeks (rest of September)** as we as a church go through God's design for community, on Sundays and in weekly small group discussions.

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Opening Question

What is a life-skill you wish you knew?

Bible

Matt 28:16-20 / John 20:11-18

Discussion

After we have heard the good news of Jesus for ourselves, what does Jesus say about "mission" in these passages?

What is the purpose of sharing the good news of Jesus with others?

Activity

Review the "[Small Group Vision and Values](#)" document, only sections "Small Group Values" intro and points #1, 6, & 7.

How can Jesus's command to live on mission shape this small group?

Each share, who in your life can you invite to be part of this small group?

How can we as a group create a space to welcome new people?

Prayer

Partner up and pray for one another. Specifically share who we are praying for to invite to church/small group.

Week 3 - week of Sept 22nd

The New Community's Power - The Holy Spirit

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Opening Question

What would be your karaoke song of choice?

Bible

John 14:15-31 / Acts 2:42-47

Discussion

What is the role of the Holy Spirit?

How does the power of the Holy Spirit work in and through community?

Activity

Review the "Small Group Vision and Values" document, only sections "Small Group Values" intro and points #4 & #5.

How can we allow the Holy Spirit to work in our small group?

How do we each participate in our small group? Is there a new role in our small group you're interested in stepping into? (Introduce the monthly sign-up sheet and invite people sign up for roles.)

Prayer

Pray as a group for the small group and future members. Spend time listening to the Holy Spirit and what it might be saying to you.

Week 4 - week of Sept 29th

The New Community's Promise - The New Heavens & Earth

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Opening Question

What would be your karaoke song of choice?

Bible

Rev 21:1-8, 22-27; 22:1-5, 12-21

Discussion

What do the verses say about the future restoration Jesus will bring?

How can this encourage us to hope in Jesus in our current circumstances?

Activity

Review the "Small Group Vision and Values" document, only sections "Small Group Values" intro and points #2 & #3.

How can we learn about Jesus through one another's stories?

How do our stories encourage faith?

Prayer

Pray with a prayer partner.