

## Group Meeting

### Welcome!

Welcome to Session 27 of *Believe*. If there are any new members in your group, take a moment to introduce yourselves to each other. Then spend a couple of minutes sharing insights or questions about this session's personal study. Now start the video!

#### VIDEO TEACHING NOTES

As you watch the video segment for Session 27, use the following outline to record some of the main points. (The answer key is found at the end of the session.)

- Key Idea: I choose to be kind and good in my \_\_\_\_\_ with others.
- Key Verse: "Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is \_\_\_\_\_ for each other and for everyone else." (1 Thessalonians 5:15)
- Key Question: What does it mean to do the right thing in my relationships with \_\_\_\_\_?
- (Key Application) Out of a pure heart ... we do not pay back wrong for \_\_\_\_\_.
- (Key Application) Out of a pure heart ... seek to \_\_\_\_\_ others up.
- (Key Application) Out of a pure heart ... do the \_\_\_\_\_ thing out of love.

#### GETTING STARTED

Begin your discussion by reciting the Key Verse and Key Idea together as a group. On your first attempt, use your notes if you need help. On your second attempt, try to state them completely from memory.

**KEY VERSE:** "Make sure that nobody pays back wrong for wrong, but always strive to do what is good for each other and for everyone else."  
(1 Thessalonians 5:15)



**KEY IDEA:** I choose to be kind and good in my relationships with others.

#### GROUP DISCUSSION

As a group, discuss your thoughts and feelings about the following declarations. Which statements are easy to declare with certainty? Which are more challenging, and why?

- I would never keep money that didn't belong to me.
- I am known as a person who speaks words of kindness to those in need of encouragement.
- I give to others expecting nothing in return.
- I help those who are in trouble or who cannot help themselves.

Based on your group's dynamics and spiritual maturity, choose the 2–3 questions that will lead to the best discussion about this week's Key Idea.

1. What are some specific ways you have experienced God's kindness in your life? What impact has it made on you?
2. If the adversary of hope is fear, what would be the enemy of kindness and goodness?
3. How have other people recently shown you genuine kindness? How did you respond?
4. How are the virtues of kindness and goodness different? What are some practical examples of each virtue in action?

ad 1 Samuel 20:13 – 16 and 2 Samuel 9:1 – 13 (see the section “Stories of Kindness: *avid*” in Believe) and choose 1 – 2 questions that will lead to the greatest discussion in ur group.

David’s predecessor King Saul was downright evil to him for thirteen years. In what ways would it be tempting for David to use his newly acquired power to exact revenge on Saul and his family?

Note specifically how David exhibited kindness and goodness to Jonathan’s family, in keeping with his promise to Jonathan. Why was this considered a radical decision?

David doesn’t appear to have any bitterness or hatred toward Saul’s family. After all the hardship Saul caused him, how is this possible? What can we learn from David’s example?

### CASE STUDY

Use the following case study as a model for a real-life situation where you might put his week’s Key Idea into practice.

Jared couldn’t believe his eyes. He had read through the lawsuit three times, and with each reading he became more and more shocked. His best friend and former business partner, Cal, was suing him. They had gone into business together right out of college and after five tough, grinding years, their company began to experience incredible success.

After fifteen years of steady growth, they mutually agreed to split their partnership when they couldn’t agree on the direction to take the business. Cal took his share of the revenue and tried his luck in the investment world, but risky ventures have left him nearly broke. So he filed a lawsuit filled with false accusations against Jared.

Using the Key Applications from this session, what could you say or do to help Jared? (If needed, refer to your video notes for a reminder of this session’s Key Applications.)

### CLOSING PRAYER

Close your time together with prayer. Share your prayer requests with one another. Ask God to help you put this week’s Key Idea into practice.

### JOURNAL

If your church is doing the *Believe* church-wide campaign, bring this study guide with you to church and use the following space to take notes from the pastor’s or teacher’s message. If your church provides an outline, consider keeping it with this guide so you will have all of your notes and thoughts from your *Believe* journey in one place.

### VIDEO NOTES ANSWER KEY

relationships / good / others / wrong / build / hard