

## SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Message Series: Life Hacks

Message Title: Doers

Speaker: Kevin Myers

Date: October 18, 19, 2014

### **Icebreaker:**

Think about a person you know, or have known, who is full of wisdom. Share with the group what that person was like and how he or she may have impacted your life.

### **Message Overview:**

Many people do not experience the blessings that God wants for them because they are “merely hearers of the word and not doers” (James 1:22). Spiritual maturity is more than knowing what to do—it is acting on what we know. “Faith without Action is Dead.” If we say we love and follow God but won’t deal with division or anger or temptation or sin, our faith is dead. If we don’t love our spouse or honor God first or serve others, our faith is dead. PK showed a clip from the movie “Jerry Maguire” where Cuba Gooding Jr’s character gets Tom Cruise to shout, “Show me the money!” to illustrate that talk without action is useless. There are three Life Hacks that we need to apply to our lives: Step Up; Step Back; Sacrifice. STEP UP—James 1:27 mentions helping orphans and widows. Our Christmas outreach is coming up, and our Christmas offering will be taken on November 15 and 16. We will fill shoeboxes for Samaritan’s Purse again, in addition to other projects. Available projects are online at [12Stone.com/Christmas](http://12Stone.com/Christmas). STEP BACK—There are times when we have to treat someone better than they are treating us. SACRIFICE—Everyone will have to sacrifice in some way in order to participate in the Christmas projects and offerings. Sacrifice is a move from from casual to radical. Sacrifice costs us time, energy, money and effort. PK talked about the singer Keith Green, a radical for his time, who died young, just as John the Baptist did. The offering music was Keith Green’s convicting song, “Asleep in the Light.”

### **Discussion:**

(Leaders: The questions that follow are designed to stir reflection and discussion on this week’s primary Message points. Please read through them prior to your meeting, so you can be prepared to prayerfully pace your group well. And remember, as leader, your goal is to promote increased *biblical* awareness, as well as individual *self*-awareness – a combination that, with the help of the Holy Spirit, results in revelation and...transformation!)

- Read aloud James 1:22-24. As you think about the “Show me the money!” clip, does it bring to mind a place in your life where you have just been “listening” and not “doing?” What steps do you need to take to put actions to your words?

- Read aloud James 1:27. Looking ahead to the Christmas projects and offering, how might you Step Up to help in these projects? How can you Step Up to fill a ministry position that a pioneer is vacating when the new campuses open up in January?
- Do you have a relationship where you need to Step Back and treat someone better than they are treating you? What will that look like? Will it involve forgiveness?
- Read aloud Matthew 7:12 and Matthew 5: 43-44. Discuss how these verses apply to how the church is handling the situation that could have been taken to court. How do these verses apply to your life?
- Prayerfully consider this week what God would have you sacrifice in order to serve others and give yourself away with your time, money, energy, and effort.
- Read aloud these words from Keith Green's song: *The world is asleep in the dark; that the church can't fight 'cause it's asleep in the light.* Discuss what they mean to you. Are there any steps you need to take to help fight the dark?

**Wrap-Up/Close:**

Are you willing to be seen as a radical like John the Baptist and Keith Green? Are you willing to sacrifice time and money to put actions to your faith? Take these questions to the Lord this week as you listen for what He wants your "doing" to look like.

**Throughout the Week: (Optional)**

Memorize James 1:25