

# WEST RIDGE GROUPS

## Group Member Discussion Guide

*Week of November 27, 2022*

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### **CHECK-IN** (~20 minutes)

*How was your week?* What was the high part of your week? What was the low part of your week? What can we celebrate together?

### **MESSAGE SUMMARY**

This week Pastor Brian continued our series in the book of Mark. In this week's message, Pastor Brian talked about Jesus hanging out with "sinners." The main text told about Jesus calling Levi (Matthew) to follow him. Levi was a despised tax collector, yet Jesus wanted him to follow and be a disciple. After Levi left his tax booth, and essentially his job, we see Jesus dining at his house with other tax collectors and sinners. Jesus was always caring for people, those who followed him and those who didn't. Everyone matters to Jesus, including those who may not matter to us.

### **GROUP DISCUSSION** (~50 minutes)

1. Thinking back to this week's message, was there anything particularly challenging for you? What is a take away that you can share with the group?
2. In his message this week, Pastor Brian said, "If you choose to follow Jesus with your whole life, there are going to be moments when Jesus' actions are going to challenge you. They may make you uncomfortable. If you really pay attention to the words that He says, and whom He says them to, how he spends His time, and whom He hangs out with, it will make you question some things about your life." How have you experienced this in your own life? Share your experience with the group.
3. *Read Mark 2:13-17*  
In these verses, what sticks out to you? Is there something that you've missed or just read for the first time?

4. One of the main points in the message this week was that we need to sacrifice like Jesus. Right now, there are 357,000 people within a 10-mile radius of our church building. About 85% are not in a church on any given Sunday and we've been called to reach them with the life-changing message of the Gospel! Jesus sacrificed His own life to give these people salvation. And we've been called to share that message with them. How will this play out in your life? What do you think you may need to sacrifice in order to be more like Jesus?

5. One of the values we hold at West Ridge is that we embrace people. People matter to God, so they matter to us. Our words and actions will demonstrate our love for God by loving others, including those outside the faith. Give an example of how you can live out this value this week.

### **WRAP-UP** (~10 minutes)

It is important to be growing in our relationship with Jesus and one another - what is one next step you can take this week to grow? Share with the group and commit to holding one another accountable.

*What does it look like to hold each other accountable?* It can be as simple as a text or phone call during the week. Hebrews 10:25 encourages us to meet regularly and to encourage one another on a regular basis.

*Example:* "Hey \_\_\_\_, you indicated in group this week that you were struggling at work with being light in a dark place. You said that your next step was to start a conversation with someone at work this week around the topic of faith. How did that go?"

### **PERSONAL NOTES**

This week, my next step is:

This week I am going to check in on (name):

This week, my Bible reading will be (e.g. Philippians chapters 1-4):