

WEST RIDGE GROUPS

Group Member Discussion Guide

Week of March 5, 2023

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 we continued our series in the book of Mark. In his message this week, Pastor Brian taught on the Kingdom of God. The Kingdom of God is what our lives should look like when Jesus is ruling and reigning over everything. As Pastor Brian walked through chapter 4, verses 21 thru 34, he taught us that we are called to shine our light, to spread the message of Jesus, and watch the kingdom grow with expectation.

GROUP DISCUSSION (~50 minutes)

1. Thinking back to the message this week, what one or two takeaways would you share with the group?

2. *Read Mark 4:21-23, John 8:12, John 12:46*

We are called to shine our light - so the question that we must ask ourselves is this: Is my life a reflection of the Kingdom of God? Share your thoughts with group.

3. It can be tempting, and often easier to keep our faith compartmentalized from the rest of our life (work, sports, marriage, parenting). Have you found this to be true in your personal experience? Share your experience with the group.

4. *Read Mark 4:28-29*

Knowing that the growth of God's Kingdom is a guarantee, why do you think we are often afraid to share the story of Jesus? Do you have a personal story you can share with the group?

5. Pastor Brian shared that there are only two continents where Christianity is in decline - North America and Europe. How does this statement make you feel? What kind of challenges does this present to your current spheres of influence?

6. *Read Mark 4:34*

God will continue to develop you and use you as you faithfully do what He has already asked you to do. How have you seen this play out in your own life?

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):