

WEST RIDGE GROUPS

Group Member Discussion Guide

Week of March 24, 2024

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

We are nearing the end of our teaching series through the book of Mark. This week, Pastor Brian led us through the events of Good Friday, focusing on Jesus' crucifixion and the great implications it held for humanity. Pastor Brian emphasized Jesus' sacrificial death as a divine appointment fulfilling Old Testament prophecies, highlighting the theological significance of sin and Jesus' role as our substitute. The message detailed the agony Jesus endured, both physically and spiritually, including his abandonment by God, yet ultimately showcasing the love and grace exhibited through His sacrifice. It is important for Christians to reflect on the transformative power of Jesus' death and the hope it brings, leading into the anticipation of Easter Sunday.

GROUP DISCUSSION (~50 minutes)

1. Thinking back to the message this week, was there anything that challenged you personally? Share your thoughts with the group.

2. *Read Isaiah 53:10*

When you think of all that Jesus endured on the cross - how does understanding the crucifixion as a divine appointment ordained by God affect your perspective on the events of Good Friday?

3. *Read Romans 6:23*

In what ways does the concept of Jesus becoming our substitute on the cross deepen your understanding of salvation? Do you think it can be easy for believers to forget how significant this is? Why or why not?

4. *Read Mark 15:38*

How does the tearing of the temple curtain symbolize the access to God granted through Jesus' death, and what implications does this have for our relationship with God?

5. *Read Mark 15:39*

Think about the Centurion's declaration, "Truly this man was the Son of God." How does Jesus' crucifixion challenge our perceptions of who can receive forgiveness and salvation?

As you wrap up - who is your *one*? **Who in your life needs Jesus?**

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):