

WEST RIDGE GROUPS

Group Member Discussion Guide

Week of May 5, 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

This week, Pastor Brian continued our messages series on Heaven. In his message, Pastor Brian discussed the New Heaven and New Earth as described in Revelation, emphasizing its beauty and perfection. He talked about the idea of God creating everything anew, free from the contamination of sin. The message highlighted Heaven being a place of reunion, joy, and security, devoid of sorrow, pain, or evil. Concluding his message, Pastor Brian talked of the importance of personal reflection of our readiness for Heaven and sharing the message of salvation with others.

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 Romans 7:18-19*

When you consider the absence of sin and its consequences in Heaven, how are you encouraged to persevere in your journey of faith despite struggles with temptation or personal sin?

3. *Read Revelation 21:22-23*

We know that Heaven is a place filled with God's presence. How does this understanding impact your daily life and relationship with God here on Earth?

4. *Read Revelation 7:9*

There is no loneliness in Heaven, so how can we cultivate a sense of unity and community within our local church or small group as a foretaste of the fellowship we will experience in eternity? Share your thoughts and ideas with the group.

5. Read 1 John 5:11-12

As wonderful as Heaven will be, there is an exclusivity to those who will be able to partake. It will only be for those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. How does this truth compel you to share the message of salvation with others who have yet to hear or accept it?

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):