

WEST RIDGE GROUPS

Group Member Discussion Guide

Week of March 16, 2025

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, Dr. John Morgan continued our series, *A Kingdom Upside Down*. In his message, Dr. Morgan explores the coexistence of good and evil in the world through the Parable of the Weeds. Jesus taught that while God's kingdom is growing, the enemy (Satan) sows deceit and sin, creating a world where righteousness and wickedness exist side by side. However, God's patience allows time for transformation and repentance, yet final judgment will come when the righteous are separated from the wicked. Dr. Morgan encouraged us to persevere, trust in God's justice, and commit to living out God's kingdom despite life's challenges.

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 2 Peter 3:9*

What does the Parable of the Weeds teach us about God's patience and ultimate judgment?

3. *Read Matthew 13:29-30*

Why do you think God allows good and evil to coexist in the world instead of immediately removing all evil?

4. *Read Matthew 7:1-2*

How does this parable challenge our tendency to judge others too quickly?

5. *Read Ephesians 6:11*

What steps can we take to remain faithful and spiritually strong despite the influence of the enemy in the world?

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):