

WEST RIDGE GROUPS

Group Member Discussion Guide

Week of March 8, 2026

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 continue our teaching series through the book of Romans - *The Power of Grace*. Pastor Brian discussed how Abraham's faith serves as a model for all believers, showing that righteousness comes through faith in God rather than through works or the law. Abraham believed God's promise of descendants despite impossible circumstances (being 100 years old with a 90-year-old wife) demonstrating that faith doesn't ignore reality but refuses to let circumstances have the final word over God's character. The Apostle Paul connects Abraham's story directly to the gospel, explaining that just as Abraham believed in the God who gives life to the dead, Christians believe in the God who raised Jesus from the dead for our justification. Pastor Brian reminded us that we are made right with God the same way Abraham was: by grace through faith in what God has done through Jesus Christ — not by our own efforts.

GROUP DISCUSSION (~50 minutes)

1. What did you find most compelling or challenging about the message this week? Share your thoughts with the group.
2. **Read Romans 4:18-21**
How does Abraham's example challenge our understanding of faith in difficult circumstances?
3. **Read Romans 4:23-25**
How does understanding that Abraham's faith journey was recorded for our benefit change the way we read Old Testament narratives? What does this teach us about how God saves people across all generations?
4. How does Romans 4:25 summarize the entire gospel message? Take a few moments to discuss the two parts of this verse: Jesus "delivered up for our trespasses" and "raised for our justification." Why are both the cross and the resurrection essential to our salvation?
5. The Apostle Paul notes that Abraham "considered" his physical reality but his faith "did not weaken." How can we be honest about challenges while still trusting God's character and promises?

WRAP-UP (~10 minutes)

Prayer — How can we be praying for you? What are you excited about right now? What are you worried about?

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):