

# CONVERGENCE

## Discussion Guide

### Let's Talk

Begin your time together sharing what prompted you to attend Sanctus Church. If you're committed to this local church, briefly explain why.

Pastor Jon's book *Convergence* was written with the intent to give our church a common script (shared language & meanings) about Spiritual Gifts, Spiritual Practices, and Spiritual Experiences. Give opportunity for one or two members to share how their understanding of one of these has grown in recent years, and how this growth has impacted their Christian life.

### Let's Study

Read 2 Timothy 3:15-17 from two different translations.

This passage describes the Scripture as holy. What other words are used here to describe the Scriptures?

Verse 16 says Scripture is useful for teaching, correcting, rebuking, and training. Discuss each of these, what they mean, and how they differ from each other.

Can you think of an example of how a passage of Scripture has benefited you in one of these ways?

Jon explained two ways to handle the Scriptures. A regulative position says, "If you find something in the Bible to do, you must do it; if you don't find it in Scripture, you shouldn't do it." A normative approach says, "If we find it in Scripture, we should do it; if we don't find it, but it doesn't violate the letter or spirit of the Scriptures, we can do it, too." Do you think most Christians you know handle Scripture in a normative way? Why?

Read John 14:6-17.

What truths does this passage declare about God? Is there something in this passage for which you are grateful?

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### Let's Apply

Since Scripture is the ultimate guide for Christian life, how will you prioritize growing in your knowledge and understanding of Scripture this week?

Jon explained that to interpret Scripture (that isn't specifically clear) one considers Scripture first and foremost, but also reason, experience, and tradition (church history). Why would ignoring one of these limit our ability to correctly respond to God's Word?

Jon used a three-legged stool analogy, saying if one leg is not balanced, the stool topples over. The three legs are allegiance (meeting and having faith in Christ), truth (teaching), and power (signs and wonders). If a church elevates one leg over the others, what impact could that have?

From today's discussion, is there something you want to now think differently about? Is there something you want to take more time to dwell on this week?

### Let's Pray

O Lord Jesus Christ, you have said that you are the way, the truth, and the life. Do not let us stray from you who are the way, nor distrust you who are the truth, nor to rest in anything other than you, who are the life. Teach us by your Holy Spirit, what to believe, what to do, and where to take our rest. We ask it for your own name's sake. AMEN.

Source: Desiderius Erasmus

### Additional Resource

Read the first chapter of Convergence: [www.sanctuschurch.com/convergencebook](http://www.sanctuschurch.com/convergencebook)