

RIVERS CROSSING COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Discussion Guide
May 6, 2018



community
GROUPS

The God I Don't Understand – Week #3

BIBLE IN A YEAR READING (SPEND 10-15 MINUTES HERE):

Spend a little time at the beginning of each week to talk through the “Bible in a Year” reading plan. Use this as a time to encourage, discuss, and apply what we’ve read together this week since our group last met. Give people an opportunity to share around these 3 general questions:

1. What passage(s) did God use this week to help you grow?
2. What passage(s) did you have challenges with? Why?
3. What passage(s) did you not understand?

Encourage your group members to dive into study and research when they come across passages that they don't agree with or don't understand. There are some great resources online. Here are a few to share:

<http://blueletterbible.org/> - Tons of biblical study resources available
For the Love of God – Vol 1 & 2 – Daily reading commentary

INTRO:

Most of us long for justice for the big things like ISIS, human traffickers, drugs dealers, racists, and the sort. Why is it so easy for us to expect justice for these things? What do you want God's role to be in the process?

DIVE IN:

1. Pastor Jeff noted that for most of us, feeling a sense of “judgement” is not a challenge. We judge nearly everything we engage – social media, workplace, etc... Do you see yourself as a judgmental person?
2. Pastor Jeff stated that belief is an important part of understanding God's judgements and justice. Justice is defined as things being set right. With the world as it is today do you struggle with the belief that God will set things right in the future? Why or why not?
3. Think about this quote - “As morality becomes more and more subjective, the concept of judgment becomes increasingly offensive.” How have you seen this play out in your world?
4. God is either qualified to judge or he isn't. Which is it? What do you believe?
5. We read in Genesis that God set the boundaries and rules for Adam and Eve. Do you think it was fair? Do you have a problem with God setting them? Let's bring it home. How do you feel when God sets boundaries in your life personally? Do you submit to them or do you have a problem with them? Do you see it as fair? Why or why not?
6. Discuss and describe the personal boundaries in your life and how they help you live the extraordinary life God has given you?

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7. How do you think that you've mistaken free will for your own complete authority? Have you turned a gift from God into something that brings you pain and judgement?
8. Pastor Jeff said "God is not either full of wrath or full of love, but he is both simultaneously." How do you balance these two ideas together? What tensions do they create for you?
9. Discuss a time you made a wrong choice as a believer and suffered the consequences for it? Did you feel convicted or condemned? How do you understand the difference? Even when you fall short, do you still feel The Father's love and forgiveness while still suffering the consequences?
10. Discuss and explain the difference between The Judgement Seat of Christ and The Great White Throne Judgement based on 2 Corinthians 5:10 and Revelation 22:12-13? How will you be judged?
11. Do you fear judgement as a believer and follower of Christ? Why or why not?

NOW WHAT:

1. What part of this week's message has had the greatest impact on you? What truth(s) has God taught you through the message and our group discussion?
2. What do you need to do with that truth this week to become a fully engaged follower of Jesus?