

RIVERS CROSSING COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Discussion Guide
November 19, 2017



2018 Year of the Word

INTRO:

Through the series we've been through two really common bible stories – Rack, Shack, & Benny in the furnace and Daniel in the Lions Den. How has looking at them again through this series changed your perspective on these (and others...) biblical stories that are often over simplified and sanitized?

DIVE IN:

Paul set the table for next year's church-wide initiative – "The Year of the Word". As you wrap up your community group for the Fall 2017 Session, take the time to discuss these questions as you look forward to the new year together...

1. Have you read the whole Bible? Have you come close to reading the whole Bible? Share with the group how much of the Bible you have read in your lifetime. Don't be ashamed if it's not much. That is the reason we are going into the challenge next year.
2. What are some reasons you disengage from reading the Bible on a consistent basis? How can you overcome those challenges in the coming year?
3. What emotional response do you have to the idea of being challenged to read the bible in a year? What previous experiences have you had that you think might cause the response you have, either positive or negative?
4. Discuss any bad experiences you had growing when it comes to reading the Bible? Confess it to the others and allow the others to pray for healing of those bad experiences so that you can reengage the Bible with a new perspective and a healed heart from your bad experiences.
5. Which of the 4 qualities Paul discussed of what God's word brings resonates the most with you and why? Which one resonates the least with you and why?
6. Paul said, "it's not enough to know the word, but you also need to be known by the word". Getting the word of God into your life is only effective if the life of Jesus is active in your through the Holy Spirit. How have you seen the Holy Spirit bring life to scriptures in your life?
7. As you break over the holidays, think about how you will encourage yourself and others in your group in reading the whole Bible next year. Think about what a win it would be if the whole group completed the challenge together. You don't want anyone left behind on this. It will take a great commitment to do it and the results of it will be extraordinary for yourself and together as a group. Not just reading it, but living it out for 2018. That's walking in the Extraordinary for 2018.

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8. Encourage your group to all go to the website and sign-up together to participate in the 2018 Year of the Word challenge. Here's the link - <http://riverscrossing.com/year-of-the-word/>

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?