

RIVERS CROSSING COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Discussion Guide
January 17, 2016



Unstoppable: A Journey Through Acts – Week #2

INTRODUCTION:

1. As Paul mentioned in his message on Sunday, there is a moment for each follower of Jesus when your faith becomes real... when you own it for yourself, when you realize the gospel is for you personally, when it's no longer your parents faith or your church association, but your relationship with Jesus. When was that moment for you? Share your experience with the group.

DIVE IN:

1. The sermon this week was directly from Peter's message at the day of Pentecost in Acts 2. It's one of the first gospel sermons ever preached and gives us an example of what gospel centered preaching looks like. Pastor Pau shared three main thoughts to help us to remember that gospel centered preaching leads to gospel centered multiplication. Answer the following questions about those main points.
 - a. **God meets us where we are.** How has this played out in your life? Share with the group a time when God met you, even in chaos, struggle, disbelief, etc... and how he affected your life in that.
 - b. **He tells the truth about ourselves.** God is a truth telling God, even when it's hard, even when it's painful, even when we don't want to hear it. How do you handle being confronted with truth? Do you run? Do you get defensive? Do you get angry? Share with the group how you respond to difficult truths when God confronts you with them.
 - c. **The truth demands a response.** Scripture says that God's word never returns void. It causes change. It brings action. Too easily though, we often hear truth, and capture it mentally without ever applying it or acting upon it. God's truth, however, demands a response. You can't interact with the cross and remain unchanged. How do you respond when you engage God's truth? Do you ignore it? Do you make sweeping but temporary life changes? Do you let it penetrate your heart?
2. You killed Jesus. Peter says it twice, but it's every bit as accurate to each one of us today. Have you ever felt the full weight of your sin? Has it cut to your heart? Not guilt, not condemnation – conviction. The realization that your sin – past, present, and future – effectively put Jesus on the cross. If so, share with the group what happened and how you received God's grace for that conviction. If you haven't yet, do you truly realize the impact of your sins?
3. Paul talked briefly about Romans... Take a few minutes as a group to walk through the following passages. If you have a church background, you might know this as the "Romans Road". It's some simple passages that help us understand the truth of the gospel. Then answer a few questions afterwards.
 - a. Romans 3:23 – "For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God's glorious standard.

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- b. Romans 6:23 – “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”
 - c. Romans 5:8 – “But God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us while we were still sinners.”
 - d. Romans 10:9-13 – “If you openly declare that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is by believing in your heart that you are made right with God, and it is by openly declaring your faith that you are saved. As the Scriptures tell us, “Anyone who trusts in him will never be disgraced.” Jew and Gentile are the same in this respect. They have the same Lord, who gives generously to all who call on him. For “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”
 - e. Romans 10:17 – “So faith comes from hearing, that is, hearing the Good News about Christ.”
4. If you’re a believer, how does this simple gospel reminder affect you? Is it white noise or is it still powerful truth that confronts, corrects, and calls for response? If you’re not yet a believer, how does hearing the truth of the gospel affect you? Do you believe you’re a sinner? Do you believe that the cross is for you?
5. There are some appropriate responses to the truth of the gospel. One of them is to begin a relationship with Christ if you have not yet done that. One of them is to make a public declaration of faith through baptism if you have not yet done that. One of them is to share this truth that has changed your life for eternity with the people in your life that have not yet accepted Jesus. What is the response that the Holy Spirit is leading you to make this week?

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?