

RIVERS CROSSING COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Discussion Guide
April 22, 2018



The God I Don't Understand – Week #1

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:

Reading through the Old Testament can be challenging. What part of the reading plan so far has been the most challenging to engage/understand? What part of the Old Testament has been most interesting/encouraging for you so far?

DIVE IN:

Read all of Galatians 3:15-29 together as a group, and then discuss the questions below:

1. As a modern Christian, why is reading the Old Testament often confusing and challenging?
2. How do you approach reading the Old Testament?
3. Pastor Paul's big idea was that the Old Testament is full of wisdom, not timeless wisdom. Was this helpful for you to process what you've read or not?
4. How does this idea of wisdom vs. timeless wisdom help you read scripture? How do you see God's truth and wisdom even in statements that may not be “timeless” in application?
5. Go back to verse 21 – rules and regulations of the “law” are never life giving. They are simply boundaries of behavior. Why do you think humanity regularly tries to default to “do's & don'ts” instead of relationship with God, even now?
6. What do you think it means for the law to be “our guardian, until Christ came” (vs 24)?

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7. Think about the imagery between “guardian” and “parent” in verses 23-29. How does this idea of being God’s children change our relationship to the law?
8. Are you more comfortable with the New Testament, Jesus, and grace? Do you regularly avoid the Old Testament? Why?
9. How are you personally living a holy, “set apart”, life? How has God made your life different than the rest of the world?
10. Are you beginning to see the bible as one single story that points to Jesus? What’s been helpful to this process? What may still seem disjointed or disconnected?

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?