RIVERS CROSSING COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Discussion Guide April 15, 2018

The Symbols of Christ – Communion



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 tour 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:

Did anyone in your group get baptized this week? If so, celebrate it! How did watching the baptisms and then taking communion immediately afterwards help you engage faith differently?

Was communion any more significant or powerful for you this time because of this?

DIVE IN:

Read all of 1 Corinthians 11:17-34 together as a group, and then discuss the questions below:

- 1. Paul is addressing the entire church about their habits around communion. It's in the context of community. Have you considered that how you engage community affects your sincerity in taking communion?
- 2. He calls out division and quarrels, social inequalities, drunkenness, gluttony, etc... and says there no place for those things at the table of communion. Have you ever thought of communion from this perspective?
- 3. Paul says to examine ourselves before we partake. In light of the previous questions, what do you think that looks like? Do you pray and examine your heart? How do you do this?
- 4. Do you allow the Holy Spirit to bring up anything that needs to be confessed before taking communion?

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- 5. Do you confess it and accept His forgiveness in the moment? Do you need to confess something to people within your community too? How does communion prompt you to confess or repent to others, not just Christ?
- 6. As you take communion, are you actively thinking about Jesus' sacrifice?
- 7. What do you feel after you take communion? How does it draw you closer to Christ?

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?