

RIVERS CROSSING COMMUNITY CHURCH

Community Group Discussion Guide
May 13, 2018



community
GROUPS

Mother's Day Message

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:

Happy Mother's Day to all the mom's in your group! We all have a mom – take a little time to share a memory of your mom that you have held on to over the years... could be funny, could be sentimental, could be encouraging.

DIVE IN:

Read Proverbs 31 together as a group. Don't miss the "heading" of the passage. Let the text sink in and then answer the following questions.

1. Many of you may be thinking, here we go again with Proverbs 31, the "impossible" standard! Women - what challenges you most when you read this passage? Men – how do you see the women in your life living this out?
2. Pastor Paul talked about the ideal vs. the real. How does this personally play in your life when your ideals on motherhood and just being a woman clashes with what's really happening in your world?
3. Work is not your worth. Such a powerful statement. Men and women both deal with this - how do you process that statement? How do you remember this core truth with the busy life you have?
4. Women - do you believe you have influence inside the home? Do you believe your influence extends outside the home? Why or why not? Men – how can you encourage and "call out" the influence you see in your wife?
5. Women - what cultural myths about mothers and women you deal with on a personal level? How do you push back against them? Guys – how do you "release" your wives & moms from these myths?

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6. Guys, you are not off the hook. What can you do more of to support the women in your life who are mothers?
7. On days like Mother's Day and Father's Day, celebrating one gender's uniqueness doesn't have to be at the cost of tearing down the other gender. What does it look like to raise the value of women on days like today without bringing down the value of men?
8. The framework for the woman to live the Proverbs 31 is fearing and loving the Lord empowered by The Holy Spirit to achieve the standard. Pastor Paul says It's better to aim for an ideal and miss it, than to aim for ordinary and hit it. How do you process this? How do you begin to live this out?

We fully acknowledge that holidays like Mother's Day can be difficult for some people for various reasons. Make sure to address and be sensitive to this reality.

9. Take an opportunity to talk about mothers and especially those who have a hard time with Mother's day. Whether it's losing a mother, a strained relationship, losing a child, not being able to have children, etc... Allow time for people to share any difficulties they may have as they experience this holiday and allow time to pray for them after they share to bring healing.
10. As you close, pray together for the mom's in the group – ask God to bless them, fill them with love and patience, and for the influence they have in so many lives.

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?