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# COMMUNITY GROUPS

**RIVERS CROSSING CHURCH**  
Community Group Discussion Guide  
May 12, 2024

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

### 1. Icebreaker Questions | What gift have you given or received for Mothers Day that you will forever remember?

Icebreaker Questions | Who is your favorite TV/Movie mom and why?

We are in week 3 of our series – Women In the Bible. We see over and over again in scripture that women are Chosen, Valued, and Empowered. This week's message was on the power and impact of generational faith.

Pastor Paul and Farrah quoted several generation leaders who spoke of the incredible influence specifically their mothers had on their lives, their leadership, and their character. Read the following quotes and answer the question that follows.

- Abraham Lincoln: “I remember my mother's prayers, and they have always followed me. They have clung to me all my life.”
- George Washington: “My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am, I owe to my mother. I attribute my success in life to the moral, intellectual, and physical education I received from my mother.”
- Billy Graham: “Of all the people I have ever known, she had the greatest influence on me. I am sure one reason the Lord has directed and safeguarded me, as well as Ruth (wife) and the children, through the years was the prayers of my mother and father.”
- John Piper: “I know God better because my mother embodied, with seamless authenticity, both an unwavering sense of right and wrong mingled with merciful tenderness. She was a lawgiver, and a law enforcer, and a gospel-saturated sage. How else will a child ever be prepared to know the true God of scripture.”

### 2. Which of these quotes most resonates with you as it relates to a parent or some other adult figure who has poured into your life? Another way to ask this may be; who are the pillars of faith in your life and what impact has their faith had on you.

## DIVING DEEPER

We were challenged during the message to dig a bit deeper into whether we had a living faith. A faith that is sincere, genuine and without hypocrisy. A faith that is alive like the one the apostle Paul saw in the life of Timothy.

Lois (grandma) and Eunice (mom) taught Timothy from a young age the scriptures that would one day lead to his knowledge of the Messiah and ultimately his conversion to a life sold out

for Jesus. Timothy's ministry journey did not start when Paul called him into ministry. It started with his bedtime prayers, at the dinner table, and in the example of the amazing women in his life.

We don't all have the blessing of faith deposits from the generations before us like Timothy did, but we do have the same opportunity to make a decision to surrender our lives to Jesus and walk in a Living Faith which was described as a sincere faith that is genuine and without hypocrisy.

Read the following passage of scripture to answer the next question.

***2 Timothy 1:5-6 (NIV) – <sup>5</sup>I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. <sup>6</sup>For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.***

3. Has a generational faith been deposited into you? This may have come from a parent, a caregiver or another influential person in your life.
4. If you call yourself a Christian, do you have a "Living Faith"?
  - a. How can you fan into flame the gifts God has given you?
  - b. If you don't call yourself a Christian yet, thank you for being here. This is a safe place to explore your faith and our hope is that a new generational deposit of faith will one day start with you.

Read the following passages of scripture and answer the question that following.

***Deuteronomy 6:4-7 (NIV) – <sup>4</sup>Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. <sup>5</sup>Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. <sup>6</sup>These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. <sup>7</sup>Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.***

5. What deposits of faith are you making into the next generation OR if you don't think you are yet, how can you start?
  - a. If you are a parent, do you view your children as someone who reflects the glory of God?

Read the following passage of scripture and answer the question that follows.

***2 Timothy 3:14-15 (NIV) <sup>14</sup>But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, <sup>15</sup>and how from infancy you have known the holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.***

6. What is something you were taught as a child or something you want to make sure to pass on to the next generation about your relationship with Jesus?

## TAKING IT HOME

7. What's your biggest takeaway from this week's sermon and our group discussion? How can you put that into action this week?

## PRAYER REQUESTS

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## RIVERS CROSSING – THINGS TO KNOW

1. **Baptism on the Lawn – Saturday May 18th |** We believe baptism is an integral part of your spiritual journey and necessary as you seek to become a fully engaged follower of Christ. If you've recently decided to follow Jesus or you've been a Christ follower for a while but never gotten baptized, now is the perfect time to take this next step! This baptism service will be held on our renovated lawn space at 3pm with a party to follow. Learn more and sign up by visiting <https://riverscrossing.com/grow/>
2. **Everyman Challenge –** The Everyman Challenge is a six-month journey for men that combines daily personal action and exploration, weekly check-ins, and monthly group activities. The 2024 Everyman Challenge will begin in late-May 2024 and run through mid-October 2024. <https://riverscrossing.churchcenter.com/people/forms/414622>
3. **Church Updates –** Last Sunday Pastor Paul announced that our Deer Park campus will close on May 19th. Because of our presence in that community 175 + people made a decision to follow Jesus and their lives are forever changed. Please join us in praying

**for those who have labored well to lay a Gospel-centered foundation in that community and for God to use The Valley Church to continue the work of seeing God take that city for His Kingdom as they take over the building.**

- 4. Church Update – Pastor Paul also announced that a 4th service will be coming to Sunday nights at 5PM. Please begin to prayerfully consider if God may be calling you to help us launch that experience so we can continue to see 1 more person come to Christ over and over again.**