

COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

Called Message Series

Moving Forward Toward a Truly Better Future Together
for the week of October 18, 2020

1. When have you felt like an “outsider”? What were some of the factors that led you to feel this way?

There are innumerable reasons that can lead a person to feel like they don't belong... or aren't welcome. Unfortunately, church is one of the places that a person might not feel like they belong, which is the opposite of what we want them to experience! In the book of Acts, we see the beginning of how God prompted the early church to get outside of themselves and seek to include people of all races and backgrounds. Read Acts 1:8-9.

2. Are there any locations/people groups that Jesus leaves out in this command? Why do you think that is?
3. Why do you think these were the last words Jesus spoke before he returned to his Father's side in heaven? Why didn't the disciples get an opportunity to ask follow-up questions?

Despite Jesus' clear command, the early church only partially obeyed, as their witness was limited to the city of Jerusalem. But then Stephen was killed, becoming the first martyr for the Christian faith, and everything changed. Read Acts 8:1-8

4. Why do you think it took such a violent act as Stephen's murder to get the church moving out into the world?
5. The Jews and the Samaritans hated one another, and race played a factor. What may have prompted Philip to head into Samaria to proclaim the good news of Jesus?
6. If you were Philip, would you have been nervous heading into Samaria? Why or why not?
7. How was God able to work through Philip to overcome the issues that had existed between the Jews and Samaritans?
8. Do you believe that God can do similar things through you today? Through Rainier View? Why or why not?
9. What are some of the benefits you can think of as RVCC takes steps towards becoming a multiethnic church? What are some of the challenges?

Take some time to pray as a group about the future of Rainier View, specifically the initiative to become a church that reflects the diversity of the church we see in the New Testament. Pray that God would do whatever He needs to help us pursue reconciliation and unity in Pierce County.



RAINIER VIEW CHRISTIAN CHURCH