



Rediscover Church



REDISCOVER CHURCH

MERGE GROUP SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Calvary Church

"FOR THE NEXT FOUR WEEKS WE WILL BE BASING OUR TEACHING ON THE VERY WORD OF GOD. THE RESOURCE BOOK WE HAVE MADE AVAILABLE (REDISCOVER CHURCH) IS A TOOL THAT CAN BE USED TO GO ALONGSIDE AND ADD TO THE DISCUSSION OF YOUR GROUP AND ADD TO YOUR OWN PERSONAL WORSHIP TIME AND LEARNING.

WE WILL BE TAKING VARIOUS SCRIPTURE PASSAGES INTO CONSIDERATION AS WE LOOK AT THE TOPIC OF THE CHURCH. HAVE FUN, DIG DEEP AND ASK THE HOLY SPIRIT TO TEACH US ALL ABOUT HIS BEAUTIFUL INSTRUMENT CALLED

THE CHURCH

HOPEFULLY YOU WILL BE ABLE TO REDISCOVER WHAT THE CHURCH WAS MEANT TO BE AND BECOME."

-Pastor Craig Danielson-



Who & What is the Church?

Week 1

Why and Who's the Church?

"Christians are people who are drawn together because they owe a common debt to the goodness and grace of God."

William Barclay

1. Before you start into your discussion, have each person answer this question... What is the church? (Share your answers without judgement.)
2. When you heard Pastor Craig give a list of what the church was NOT. Did you agree? Give some more examples of what the church is NOT.
3. What should be the main event of the church? Look at Revelation 21:3.
4. What does 1 Peter 2:5,9 &10 say about what is the church?
5. What does Ephesians 1 say about who we are and what was God's desire?
6. What does it mean to be "called out"? What does Ephesians 1:3-6 teach us?
7. Go around the circle and share a time when you have made the church about YOU.
8. Who is the church for? Is it only for a certain type of person?
9. Why did God choose to create the Church? (1 Peter 2:9)
10. Craig said: *"It is definitely about an event... but the event is not Sunday morning...the event is Jesus Christ and his work in us! You don't go to church, you are it!"* Do you agree or disagree with that statement?
11. Who are the one's that should be proclaiming the message everyday? (1 Peter 2:9)
12. Look at Acts 1:8 and talk about what each believer should be doing. What was their WITNESS?



Live it out:

1. How involved are you in a church? Is your level of involvement sufficient to allow you to grow to spiritual maturity?
2. What do you think is your greatest potential contribution to other Christians?
3. Have you become cynical about the church? Where do you need to repent?
4. Dive into the book REDISCOVER CHURCH. It might help clarify some things for you in your growth process.

NOTES:



Being People of Prayer

Week 2

1. What should be the posture of the Christian in prayer? (spiritually and you can answer physically too) Read Matthew 26:36-44
2. What were Jesus practices in prayer? Read Mark 1:35-38, Luke 4:42, Luke 6:12
3. What situations in Acts do we find Christians praying? Read Acts 1:14, 4:24, 6:4, 7:59,60, 10:9, 12:5, 13:3, 14:23, 16:25, 20:36 27:35
4. What do you feel you need to improve in your personal practice of prayer?
5. What do you feel we need to improve as a church in our practices of corporate prayer?

NOTES:



Being All Things to All People

Week 3

People who will become all things to all People

"Of free choice and zeal and love to Christ, [Paul] had an insatiable desire for the salvation of mankind."

John Chrysostom

1. In 1 Corinthians 9:19 what does Paul mean by the word FREE? What does Paul say you need to become in that freedom?
2. What does the word SERVANT mean? Isn't Paul being contradictory. Going from freedom to slavery. Discuss this as a group.
3. In 1 Corinthians 9:19b what does this say about Paul's love for people? (Being in slavery for love)
4. Take a look at Galatians 5: 1,13-15, what do those words say about freedom, slavery and love? How does Paul correlate those?
5. Talk about this word LOVE. What does Paul mean? Could this be what the church is supposed to be?
6. What is the "yolk of slavery" that Paul is talking about?
7. You saw the list that Pastor Craig put up on the screen about why people are exiting the church. Why do you think people are exiting the church? (Talk this out as a group)
8. In Galatians 5: 14-15; why does Paul throw in Jesus's words about "loving our neighbour"? What kind of LOVE is Paul talking about?
9. What would a church look like if it loved this way?
10. In 1 Corinthians 9:19b, why does Paul want to love people?
11. What is Paul saying about what the church should be in 1 Corinthians 9: 20-22b?



Live it out:

1. What kind of love needs to develop inside of you to put others need of the gospel before your own?
2. What do you need to be set free from to become all things to all people?
3. What does becoming a servant (slave) look like for you?
4. Dive into the book REDISCOVER CHURCH. It might help clarify some things for you in your growth process.

Pray:

Pray that the church would be awakened for the souls of people.

NOTES:



Being People of the Book

Week 4

1. If you were to rate the importance of reading God's word on scale of 1-10, how would you rate it?

Does the time you devote to reading God's word line up with how important you rate it? If there's a difference, why do you think that is?

Read 2 Kings 22:8-13.

2. What was King Josiah's reaction to the finding of and hearing the Book of the Law? Why do you suppose he reacted this way?

Read 2 Kings 23:1-3.

3. What was Josiah's response? What does this tell us about the importance of keeping God's Word in the forefront of our lives?

Note that through the rest of 2 Kings 23, Josiah takes things even further as he removes all things related to the worshiping of other gods. He takes down temples and pillars and altars and destroys anything that was created in honour of other gods.

4. What drove him to do that, and what value is had in taking things so far?

5. One of the dangers of today's society is to allow others to simply dictate truth to us, or take what someone says at face value without checking the facts first. Another danger is in only trusting something to be true if we want it to be true.

Do you agree with these statements? Do you see other dangers that we face when it comes to understanding truth?



Read Acts 17:10-12.

6. How did the Berean's respond to hearing the teaching of God's word? Do we respond the same way? If not, why not?

Read 2 Timothy 3:15-17.

7. What does Paul tell Timothy are the benefits of reading the bible as taken from these verses? What do each of these mean, and why are they important?

Live it out:

8. What steps can you take to devote yourself more to God's Word?

9. What do you hope to experience or gain as you read the bible?

10. We aren't meant to do this alone. Who can you bring along with you as you take these steps? How can you work together to encourage each other in your daily time with God's word?

Pray:

Devote time as a group to pray for leading in how you can be continually devoted to God's word. Pray for ways to encourage each other. Pray that when things get busy, that our daily time with God and His word will not be the first thing we drop, but will continue day after day. Pray that we develop a thirst for God's word, not to simply read out of obligation, but out of love.

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