

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Spring 2025 - Signs - "The Glory of His Word"

Monday, Mar. 10 - Sunday, Mar. 16 (Week 6)

EMPHASIS FOR THE MONTH: **Building Relationships.** This month, we are focusing on deepening the relationships within our groups. Strong community is built on intentional connection and taking the time to truly know and care for one another. Whether through eating together, thoughtful questions, or simply creating space for honest conversation, I want to encourage you to invest in the bonds that make our groups a place of belonging and growth. Relationships take time to develop, but every small step toward deeper connection strengthens the foundation of our groups. Let's be intentional, lead with care, and cultivate a culture of trust. I'd love to hear how it's going! Please share any wins or creative ideas!

ICE BREAKER: If you could witness any miracle from the Bible firsthand, which one would you choose and why?

CAB ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. We hope you will join us every Tuesday evening at 6:30 PM for our weekly corporate prayer gathering.
2. Join the Prime Timers (50+) for a Pizza Outing! Come enjoy an evening of great food and fellowship at Mangiamo Pizza Restaurant in Paramus on Saturday, March 22, at 6 PM. For \$25 per person (cash only), you'll get pizza, salad, and pitchers of soft drinks. Sign up by emailing info@churchatbergen.org by Wednesday, March 19. Questions? Contact Keith and Elisa Mandra at: kem777@optonline.net

PRAYER FOR DISCUSSION: Leader or Co-Leader prays for the discussion time. Pray that the The Holy Spirit would assist in the conversing, processing, and listening of the discussion.

SERMON DISCUSSION TIME: Have someone read the passage: John 4:43-54, and then read this sermon summary to jog everyone's memory:

In this sermon, Pastor McKinney delves into the importance of understanding the miracles, or "signs," described in the Gospel of John. He emphasizes that these signs are not merely displays of Jesus's power but are intended to reveal His glory and lead believers to faith. The focus of this sermon is on the second sign, where Jesus heals the son of a royal official, a historical event that illustrates the desperate search for divine intervention when faced with life's critical challenges. Pastor McKinney highlights that the spiritual condition of the man's soul was what truly mattered, underscoring the idea that spiritual health is far more significant than physical well-being. Pastor McKinney challenges the listener to examine their own faith and to recognize that Jesus's words carry power that goes beyond mere physical healing. The royal official's circumstance reflects a transformational faith experience as he learns to trust in Jesus's word, despite not having Jesus with his son physically. The sermon culminates in a powerful reminder of the value of one's soul and the assurance found in Jesus's ultimate sacrifice. Pastor McKinney invites listeners to embrace faith over skepticism, encouraging anyone who has yet to believe in Christ to consider the life-changing implications of trusting in Him.



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QUESTION #1: Can you recall a time when, like the royal official, you were desperate for a miracle or a breakthrough? How did that experience affect your faith and your relationship with Jesus?

QUESTION #2: The sermon emphasized the value of the soul over physical health - here is a quote from the sermon, "The spiritual condition of this man's soul was infinitely more important than the physical condition of his son." What was / is your reaction to hearing this quote? How does this perspective challenge or affirm your current priorities in life?

QUESTION #3: The sermon mentioned that sometimes we care more about temporal things than eternal ones. What are some areas in your life where you struggle with this, and how can you begin to shift your focus?

QUESTION #4: The royal official had to trust Jesus's words without seeing immediate results. How do you handle situations where you have to trust God without seeing immediate answers?

PRAY TOGETHER: Spend time taking **and recording** prayer requests and then pray together as a group (*I strongly encourage you to send out the prayer requests weekly to your group to keep everyone informed and in the loop on how to pray for one another throughout the week. This also makes it easier to check-in with people who have shared requests to see how the Lord has been working in their lives*).



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