

COMMUNITY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

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

Monday, Mar. 24 - Sunday, Mar. 30 (Week 8)

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 have an unlimited supply of one type of food, what would it be and why?

CAB ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. Celebrate the hope and joy of Easter with us! We invite you to our Good Friday service on April 18 at 5:45 PM (Childcare: Nursery - Pre-K 4) and our Easter Sunday services on April 20 at 9:15 & 11 AM (Childcare: Nursery- 5th grade). Come as you are and bring your family and friends... we can't wait to worship with you!
2. We're excited to invite you to the BergenKIDS Family Easter Party on Saturday, April 12, from 10–11:30 AM! Join us for games, crafts, food, story time, and an Easter egg hunt. This event is for children ages 2 through 5th grade, and we ask that you bring a basket or bag for egg collection. It's also a great opportunity to invite friends and family to join you. Please email info@churchatbergen.org to let us know you're coming by Wednesday, April 2. We can't wait to celebrate Easter with you!
3. We hope you will join us every Tuesday evening at 6:30 PM for our weekly corporate prayer gathering.
4. ATTENTION PRIMETIMERS! (50+) - For a Christian, a Passover Seder brings together the Old Testament and the New. For thousands of years Jews have celebrated Passover, as commanded in Scripture, to teach the next generation about God's mighty works. Then later, Jesus takes the matzah and wine of His last Passover and teaches us that they represent His Body and Blood. Join us for an authentic Passover meal on Friday, April 11 at 7 PM at Church at Bergen; Cost: \$20/person. For proper planning please SIGN-UP by Friday, April 4 by emailing info@churchatbergen.org. Please contact Jeff and Susan Burkes if you have any questions - jrbdds@aol.com.

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 6:1-14, and then read this sermon summary to jog everyone's memory:

In this sermon, Pastor Mike delves into the critical concept of self-awareness in the light of faith and dependence on Jesus. He opens by challenging the common self-discovery narrative that suggests we are



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inherently good, explaining instead that the Bible reveals the opposite; we are in desperate need of Jesus. As faith is tested, Pastor Mike emphasizes that true growth comes from a decrease in self-confidence and an increase in reliance on Christ. The understanding of one's own shortcomings ultimately leads to humility and an appreciation for Jesus' unconditional love and forgiveness. Pastor Mike illustrates this theme through the miracle of the feeding of the 5,000, noting how Jesus' actions serve as a sign pointing to his identity as the ultimate provider. He highlights how the crowd's desire to make Jesus king stemmed from their physical needs rather than a deeper understanding of his mission as the Savior and high priest. Jesus came not just to meet temporal needs but to offer eternal life. Pastor Mike urges the congregation to trust in Jesus beyond material wants and to recognize that true contentment comes from understanding His provision for our spiritual well-being. The sermon concludes with an invitation to partake in the Lord's Supper as a reminder of the sacrifice Jesus made for our salvation, symbolizing both his broken body and the eternal life he offers.

- Can you share a time when you felt your faith was being tested? How did that experience affect your dependence on Jesus?
- In what areas of your life do you find yourself relying more on your own strength rather than on Jesus? How can you shift that reliance?
- The sermon mentioned that Jesus is not just an "insurance provider" but our Lord and Savior. How does this perspective change the way you approach your relationship with Him?
- How do you interpret the idea that Jesus is the "bread of life" and what does it mean for your spiritual life?
- How do you respond when you feel like your needs are not being met? What steps can you take to grow in contentment and trust in Jesus?
- What are some of the "needs" in your life that you struggle to trust Jesus with? How can we as a group support you in this?

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*).

