

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Being with Jesus

Week of **Sept 30, 2018**

While this Discussion Guide is intended for use in a Riverwood Growth Group, it can be used personally as well. To get the most from these questions, we suggest you take 10-15 minutes to read, think, and pray through this Guide before participating in your Growth Group. The point of this guide is to not just "get through the questions" (there's no quiz at the end!) but to pursue Jesus and grow spiritually.

ICEBREAKER (Optional)

When you were a kid, what did you dream about doing when you grew up?

DISCUSSION

1. In most parts of America, one of the first questions adults ask a new friend is "what do you do?" Why do you think we ask this question instead of things like "Who's in your family?" or "What's your personality type?" or even "What's your favorite type of pizza?"

In his message, guest teacher Bob Westfall used Colossians 1:27-29 to talk about the importance of "being" with Jesus more than "doing" things for Christ. The Apostle Paul (who wrote Colossians) talks about this more in 2 Corinthians 5.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

2. In verse 16, Paul basically says we need to stop evaluating people on outward appearances. How do we typically make judgments of others on "outward appearances"?



3. According to these verses, how is the identity of a person changed by the gospel (i.e. what is changed for a Jesus-follower)?

4. In light of your answers to Question 3 above, what is a Jesus-follower called to do because of his/her Jesus-centered identity?

MAKING IT PERSONAL

5. a. How can the gospel help you "be" with Jesus this week?

- b. What might you need to do or change to help you "be" with Jesus?

MEMORY VERSE

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. (2 Corinthians 5:17)

PRAYER

Close in prayer by praying for one another, as well as Riverwood's new elders, Luke Anderson, Tim Corcoran, & Ed Pavelec.

