



DISCUSSION GUIDE

Ice Breaker: As you look back on these past 12 months, what stands out to you whether personally or as a Riversider?

- In Pastor Tom's opening point he stated, "People who don't know God miss the entire reason for their existence." How is this statement supported by Ephesians 1:4? Knowing we are created to know God personally, how are you challenged as you consider those who haven't been transformed by a personal relationship with God?
- Read Luke 19:10. What is Jesus' mission? Read John 17:18 and Acts 1:8. How are you challenged to be like Jesus, pursuing His mission to reach a lost world? Why do you think He uses individuals empowered by His Spirit to reach people instead of supernatural means that could reach the entire world in one grand gesture?
- Pastor Tom reminded us that "we don't have to reach out to lost people; we GET to do it!" Read 2 Corinthians 5:20 and Ephesians 2:12. Describe a time when you shared your story or invited someone, and they responded by coming and seeing what God had for them. What was it like to be God's ambassador? How does remembering your life before hope challenge you to reach out to others?
- In our current culture and religious climate, we are pressured to believe there are multiple ways to God and that His existence doesn't impact us. Read through Acts 4:12, John 14:6, Romans 10:9-15 and 2 Peter 3:9. What do these passages confirm for us? How do they challenge us?
- Were you surprised when Pastor Tom indicated that "history hinges on the Church being outward-focused?" Read Matthew 24:14. How does your willingness to live an outward-focused life speed along Jesus' return? How do the BIG 3 (Come Every Sunday, Be Part of a Group, and Serve Others) help you stay outward-focused?
- **Big Lake Campus Challenge:** Pastor Tom challenged us to make the move to the 12:05 for this upcoming year in order to make more room for people in Big Lake's 8:45 and 10:30 services. If you're not attending the 12:05, will you be one of the 100 people to make this move? What keeps us from taking steps to help others "come and see?" If you're already attending the 12:05, who might you encourage to join you? Take time to pray together, asking God to fill the newly opened seats in the 8:45 and 10:30 with people who will "come and see."
- **Sauk Rapids Campus Challenge:** Pastor Nate challenged us to invite 2 people each month this next year to "come and see." God has placed people in your life who need to know Him personally. Who are they? You may or may not know their name, but you regularly see them, and God can and will provide unique opportunities to connect with them...if you ask Him. Take time to pray as a group, asking God to help you take the step to invite them to "come and see."

PERSONAL GUIDE

Day 1: Read Psalm 96

Day 2: Read Psalm 97

Day 3: Read Psalm 98

Day 4: Read Psalm 99

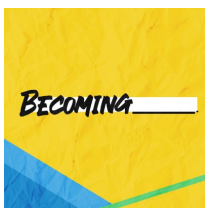
Day 5: Read Psalm 100

BECOMING FOCUSED.

SENIOR PASTOR TOM LUNDEEN

MESSAGE NOTES & SMALL GROUP
DISCUSSION // PERSONAL GUIDES

JUNE 23, 2019



“Becoming Focused” (State of the Church 2019) [Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]

MESSAGE NOTES

If you and I are to become more like Jesus, then what has to become the center of our hearts and the first priority of our lives is _____ the passion and mission of Jesus, that lost people matter to God and He wants them found.

1. Understand Everyone Was Created to Know God

Note Ephesians 1:4

People who don't know God miss the entire reason for their _____.

2. _____ Jesus' Mission is to Reach Lost People (note Luke 19:10)

Becoming like Jesus means our _____ should be the same as His (note John 17:18).

He has empowered and chosen us to _____ His mission (note Acts 1:8).

3. Being Outward-Focused Produces a _____ Life

We don't _____ to reach out to lost people; we _____ to do it!

Note II Corinthians 5:20; Ephesians 2:12

_____ for what Jesus has done for us makes us joy-filled people who want others to experience what we've experienced following Jesus.

4. Jesus is the _____ of the World (note Acts 4:12)

Note John 14:6; Romans 10:9-15

There's no one we will ever know or see that God doesn't want _____ (note II Peter 3:9).

If God's passion is to provide _____ for every person to be rescued and made followers of Jesus, then we will only become more like Jesus by sharing that same passion.

5. _____ Hinges on the Church Being Outward-Focused

Note Matthew 24:14

Being an outward-focused church and individuals will do more than anything else to _____ Jesus' return.

So am I becoming....:

- Note Acts 20:24
- If this is not our primary passion and motivation, we may develop _____ practices and have right sounding words—but we will not more closely _____ Jesus day by day.
- So what does this look like at Riverside for the next 12 months?
- There are challenges that are similar at both our campuses and some different.
- Grab a card and respond to the challenges and opportunities God is speaking to you about now.
- Ask the Lord to give you the names of people in your life who need to say YES to Jesus as Lord. Then ask God to give you opportunities to share your story and/or invite them to “come and see” with you at Riverside in the next 12 months. Write any names that come to mind below:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey. You can also use the Connect Card to let us know about your commitment, too!





“Becoming Focused” (State of the Church 2019)
[Tom Lundeen, Senior Pastor]

MESSAGE NOTES

If you and I are to become more like Jesus, then what has to become the center of our hearts and the first priority of our lives is embracing the passion and mission of Jesus, that lost people matter to God and He wants them found.

1. Understand Everyone Was Created to Know God Personally

Note Ephesians 1:4

People who don't know God miss the entire reason for their existence.

2. Recognize Jesus' Mission is to Reach Lost People (note Luke 19:10)

Becoming like Jesus means our mission should be the same as His (note John 17:18).

He has empowered and chosen us to complete His mission (note Acts 1:8).

3. Being Outward-Focused Produces a Joyful Life

We don't have to reach out to lost people; we GET to do it!

Note 2 Corinthians 5:20; Ephesians 2:12

Gratitude for what Jesus has done for us makes us joy-filled people who want others to experience what we've experienced following Jesus.

4. Jesus is the Only Hope of the World (note Acts 4:12)

Note John 14:6; Romans 10:9-15

There's no one we will ever know or see that God doesn't want to save (note 2 Peter 3:9).

If God's passion is to provide opportunity for every person to be rescued and made followers of Jesus, then we will only become more like Jesus by sharing that same passion.

5. History Hinges on the Church Being Outward-Focused

Note Matthew 24:14

Being an outward-focused church and individuals will do more than anything else to speed Jesus' return.

So am I becoming... :

- Note Acts 20:24
- If this is not our primary passion and motivation, we may develop religious practices and have right sounding words – but we will not more closely resemble Jesus day-by-day.

- So what does this look like at Riverside for the next 12 months?
- There are challenges that are similar at both our campuses and some different.
- Grab a card and respond to the challenges and opportunities God is speaking to you about now.
- Ask the Lord to give you at least 1 name, or 2 or 3 names of people to pray for who need to say YES to Jesus as Lord, asking God to give you opportunities to share any of your story and/or invite to “come and see” with you at Riverside in the next 12 months:

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey. You can also use the Connect Card to let us know about your commitment, too!