



Rivertree Lake Bible Recap
Breakout Group Discussion Questions
Week 43-November 25 (Not Meeting)

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. In Scripture, the heart is the seat of the will and emotions, so what is Jesus pointing to when He says forgiveness must come “from your heart”? What are some signs that you’ve forgiven someone from your heart? What are some signs that you’ve only offered forgiveness as a verbal acknowledgement?
3. Read **John 7:24** aloud. What do you think Jesus means by this? How do we judge “with right judgement”? Does this contradict what He said in **Matthew 7:1-3**? Why or why not?
4. Jesus spends a lot of time in **John 8:38-47** marking out the difference between God’s kids and the sons of the devil. What stood out to you most in this passage? What ideas were challenging or new to you?
5. Read **John 9:1-3** aloud. Do you tend to ask “why” questions like the disciples? If so, how was Jesus’s response to their question challenging? How might His answer also be encouraging?
6. Reflect on the parable of the good Samaritan. Imagine you’re the person in the ditch and Jesus is the one who came to your rescue. Who has He put in your life as the innkeeper? Who has He used to bring you healing and rest?

Day 295 Matt 18
Day 296 John 7-8
Day 297 John 9-10
Day 298 Luke 10
Day 299 Luke 12-13
Day 300 Luke 14-15
Day 301 Luke 16-17

7. Read **Luke 13:24-30** aloud. What are the main points Jesus seems to be making here? What parts are hard to process? Do you think He intends for these words to be challenging to His audience at the time? Do you think He intends them to be challenging to us? Why or why not?
8. In **Luke 15**, Jesus has an audience that consists of groups that tend to be at odds with each other—sinners, tax collectors, and Pharisees. The first two are drawn to Jesus’s message, and the latter are repulsed by it. When He tells three parables with the same primary theme, what messages do you think He is trying to communicate to each group?
9. Read **Luke 17:3-4** aloud. According to this verse, what precedes forgiveness? Can you think of a place in Scripture where we’re commanded to forgive those who are expressly unrepentant? How does God respond to the unrepentant?
10. Read **Luke 17:20-21** aloud. How has this passage been misused in society today? What are the dangers of misunderstanding or misapplying Jesus’s words here?
11. What is your favorite thing you read about God’s character in your God shots from this week?

Opening Prayer Suggestions:

- God, give us wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- God, let any knowledge we gain serve to help us love You and others more, and not puff us up.
- God, help us see something new about You we’ve never seen before.
- God, correct any lies we believe about You or any misunderstandings we have
- God, direct our steps according to Your Word.

Closing Prayer Suggestions

- Ask your group for specific prayer requests and pray over them
- Thank God for His Character traits discussed in the God Shots this week (Power, sovereignty, mercy, grace, love)
- Ask God to help each of us grow as Disciples of Jesus by studying the Bible



Rivertree Lake Bible Recap
Breakout Group Discussion Questions
Week 44 December 2

Day 302 John 11
Day 303 Luke 18
Day 304 Matt 19, Mark 10
Day 305 Matt 20-21
Day 306 Luke 19
Day 307 Mark 11, John 12
Day 308 Matt 22, Mark 12

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. According to **John 11:54**, raising Lazarus from the dead is a turning point for Jesus. How do the location and audience contribute to this turning point? What is He being mindful of by making this adjustment?
3. Read **Luke 18:22** aloud. How does Jesus respond to the rich ruler? How is this different from the way He responds to the Pharisees? What do you think accounts for the difference in His response?
4. Read **Matthew 19:10-12** aloud. What are the three types of eunuchs Jesus describes? Given the context, what do you think He means by the last type?
5. In **Matthew 21:43**, Jesus is speaking to the Scribes and Pharisees, both of whom are leaders among the Jewish religious community in Jerusalem. They hold high standards and often accuse Jesus of breaking their laws, yet Jesus accuses *them* of not producing the fruit of God's kingdom. What does the fruit of God's kingdom look like if not strict obedience?
6. Which story impacted you more—the rich ruler turning *away* from Jesus or Zaccheus turning *to* Jesus? Why?

7. Read **John 12:27-30** aloud. What words characterize Jesus's tone during this exchange? What does it reveal about Jesus that He shares this struggle openly? How can it serve as an encouragement and a model for you when you face trials?
8. Read **Mark 11:23-24** aloud. What other verses on prayer help us expand our understanding of these passages? What's the danger in taking these verses out of context of Scripture and isolating them? What might motivate a person to do that, as opposed to seeking a fuller understanding of Scripture's teaching on prayer?
9. When Jesus is asked about paying taxes to Caesar, He affirms it should be done. On a practical level, what does it look like to follow in His footsteps and humbly honor God by keeping the law while also rebelling against wicked authorities? How do we strike that balance of humility in both submission *and* action? Do you struggle to find the balance?
10. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

Opening Prayer Suggestions:

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Rivertree Lake Bible Recap Breakout Group Discussion Questions Week 45-December 9

Day 309 Matt 23, Luke 20-21
Day 310 Mark 13
Day 311 Matt 24
Day 312 Matt 25
Day 313 Matt 26, Mark 14
Day 314 Luke 22, John 13
Day 315 John 14-17

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. Read **Matthew 23:3** aloud. What direction does Jesus give His followers about the actions of the Scribes and Pharisees? Is this shocking? Why or why not?
3. Heeding Jesus's directions in **Matthew 23:3** has more to do with knowing our own motives, as opposed to knowing the motives of others. It requires us to have a certain level of self-awareness or discernment. How can we grow in these areas? Have you ever been made aware of a blind spot in your life? How did that happen?
4. In **Mark 13**, Jesus talks with Peter, James, John, and Andrew and gives them information and instructions for what they will face. At the minimum, this text serves as *information* for us today, helping us understand what the early church endured and how Christ's prophecies were fulfilled. Do you think it also serves as *instruction* for us? Why or why not?
5. What are some ways we can practice "waiting well" as we wait for the return of Christ? What are some ways we can practice "staying awake" in the meantime?
6. Read **Matthew 25:31-34, 41, and 46** aloud. What do these verses reveal about God and His character? What aspects of this are challenging for you?

7. All throughout Jesus's ministry we've seen Him working to maintain the timeline of His death. As the day approaches, He begins to reveal more information to His followers, despite the fact that He knows His betrayer is among them (**John 6:70**). In **Matthew 26**, He even reveals the means and the day of His death. What do you think the group dynamic is like in the days leading up to His death? Imagine the scenario from the perspective of Jesus, His followers, and His betrayer.
8. Why do you think Jesus feeds the Lord's Supper to Judas? How do you think Judas feels about this?
9. Who is humbled in the act of foot washing? The one doing the washing, the one being washed, or both? Why?
10. What do you think of C.S. Lewis's statement that Jesus was either lunatic, liar, or Lord? Is there another possible alternative? Why or why not?
11. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

Opening Prayer Suggestions:

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Rivertree Lake Bible Recap
Breakout Group Discussion Questions
Week 46-December 15

Day 316 Matt 27, Mark 15
Day 317 Luke 23, John 18-19
Day 318 Matt 28, Mark 16
Day 319 Luke 24, John 20-21
Day 320 Acts 1-3
Day 321 Acts 4-6
Day 322 Acts 7-8

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. Read **Revelation 13:8** aloud. How many humans existed before the foundation of the world? If the cross has been the plan since before creation, what does that reveal about God and His character? What does it reveal about humanity?
3. Read **Matthew 27:46** aloud. What do you think Jesus is communicating through this statement?
4. What new thing did you learn from the story of Jesus's crucifixion in this week's reading, or what stood out to you most? Why?
5. What new thing did you learn from the story of Jesus's resurrection in this week's reading, or what stood out to you most? Why?
6. How many fish do the apostles catch in the Sea of Galilee after the resurrection? Read **Matthew 13:47** aloud. Do you think this verse from earlier in Jesus's ministry foreshadows this story? Why or why not? What are some of the implications of catching fish "of every kind"?
7. Based on your current understanding, how would you describe the event where the people in the early church were speaking other languages in Acts 2? Why would this kind of sign be important for the early church.

8. Based on what happens with the Hellenist widows, what can we learn from the early church about how to handle the unique needs of a specific group within the church body? What's one modern problem this example from Acts 6 might help us resolve?
9. The apostles rejoice over being considered worthy to suffer for the sake of the gospel. Their prayers are focused around being able to speak the gospel *more*. What do you think gives them such zeal for sharing the gospel and enduring pain, instead of seeking to protect themselves?
10. Persecution in Jerusalem launches the members of the early church out into the world to spread the gospel. God has a track record of using our trials for the good of His kingdom *and* for our joy! In what ways have you seen this be true in your own life?
11. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

Opening Prayer Suggestions:

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Rivertree Lake Bible Recap
Breakout Group Discussion Questions
Week 47- (Not Meeting)

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Day 323 Acts 9-10
Day 324 Acts 11-12
Day 325 Acts 13-14
Day 326 James 1-5
Day 327 Acts 15-16
Day 328 Galatians 1-3
Day 329 Galatians 4-6

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. What is your favorite part of the story of Saul's conversion in Acts 9? Why? What does it reveal to you about God and His character?
3. Why is there so much complexity involved in spreading the gospel to the Gentiles? How does God work through both established and new members of the church to overcome the problem?
4. The circumcision party wants everyone to convert to Judaism before converting to Christianity. Is there anything in Scripture to support their point? What helps convince them they're wrong?
5. Read **Acts 14:1-7** aloud. Under what circumstances are Paul and Barnabas willing to stay in Iconium? What changes that makes them decide to leave? Why do you think this is a turning point for them? What does this reveal about God and His plan for them in the spread of the gospel?
6. Why does Paul require circumcision for Timothy (**Acts 16:1-5**)? What lessons can we take from this that help us understand more about stumbling blocks? What lessons can we take from this that help us understand more about the requirements for leaders?

7. In **Galatians (2:11-14)**, Paul mentions that he had to publicly rebuke Peter for failing to eat with the Gentiles and only eating with the Jews. What lessons can we take from this situation?
8. Read **Galatians 4:6-7** aloud. Then read **Romans 8:9** aloud. What message does Paul point to in both letters? Is it possible to be a Christian but not have the Holy Spirit? Why or why not?
9. Read **Galatians 5:4** aloud. What is Paul *not* saying here? And what point is Paul aiming to convey?
10. How would you summarize the theme of the book of James? How would you summarize the theme of the book of James? How would you summarize the theme of the book of Galatians? How is it possible that these two books work together in their message to believers?
11. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

Opening Prayer Suggestions:

- God, give us wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
- God, let any knowledge we gain serve to help us love You and others more, and not puff us up.
- God, help us see something new about You we've never seen before.
- God, correct any lies we believe about You or any misunderstandings we have
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Rivertree Lake Bible Recap
Breakout Group Discussion Questions
Week 48-December 30 (Not Meeting)

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Day 330 Acts 17
Day 331 1 Th 1-5, 2 Th 1-3
Day 332 Acts 18-19
Day 333 1 Cor 1-4
Day 334 1 Cor 5-8
Day 335 1 Cor 9-11
Day 336 1 Cor 12-14

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. In Paul's missionary journeys, he uses Scripture to reason with the people in the synagogues, but when he gets to Athens, he encounters people who have no experience with Scripture. How does he shift his approach? What lessons can we take from this that will help us better engage with the world around us and share the gospel with those who don't know Jesus?
3. Compare Paul's approach to teaching different groups with the way Jesus adapted His message for different audiences. What similarities do you notice? What difference, or differences, do you notice?
4. Look back at the first part of question 2. Like Jesus, Paul often has different instructions for the way believers conduct themselves when they're around other believers versus unbelievers. Revisit Paul's words to the church at Corinth about eating meat sacrificed to idols. In what situations is that acceptable? And when it's unacceptable, what's the *reason* it's unacceptable?
5. Paul, Aquila, and Priscilla meet people in Ephesus who have been baptized in water but who don't have the Holy Spirit (**Acts 18:24-19:7**). How is their situation unique for their time frame? How does it help distinguish a water baptism from the moment of salvation? (See **Romans 8:9** for help.)

6. Read **1 Corinthians 1:17** aloud. Why do you think Paul steers away from baptizing people himself? What lessons can we take from this when paired with his other teachings on baptism?
7. How would you define what it means to be free in Christ? What does it mean and what does it *not* mean? How has the church at Corinth misunderstood and misapplied “freedom in Christ”?
8. Read **1 Corinthians 5:11-12** aloud. How should we go about applying Paul’s instructions today? What are some ways this can be done well and ways it can be done poorly?
9. Read **1 Corinthians 10:13** aloud. In what ways has this verse been taken out of context? What does it mean, and what does it *not* mean? What is the heart of Paul’s encouragement in this verse?
10. Paul’s famous “love chapter” (**1 Corinthians 13**) falls between two chapters about spiritual gifts and how to use them. Why is love not just *helpful* but *foundational* in using our gifts?
11. What is your favorite thing you read about God’s character in your God shots from this week?

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- God, give us wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
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Rivertree Lake Bible Recap
Breakout Group Discussion Questions
Week 49-January 6, 2027

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Day 337 1 Cor 15-16
Day 338 2 Cor 1-4
Day 339 2 Cor 5-9
Day 340 2 Cor 10-13
Day 341 Rom 1-3
Day 342 Rom 4-7
Day 343 Rom 8-10

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. In **1 Corinthians 15**, Paul points out that the Corinthians' disbelief in the resurrection has led them into sin and debauchery. What other foundational doctrines can you think of that, if you disbelieved them, might completely alter your lifestyle, mind-set, and actions? How can we know which doctrines should be held as absolutes versus convictions or opinions?
3. Read **2 Corinthians 3:7-10** aloud. In this section, Paul demonstrates the distinction between the old covenant (law) and the new covenant (grace). Paul describes the old covenant using words like *death* and *condemnation*, and he describes the new covenant using words like *righteousness* and *more glory*. If this is the case, why did we need the old covenant of the law at all?
4. Read **2 Corinthians 7:10** aloud. Think back on the story of Jesus's arrest and crucifixion. Which of the apostles suffered worldly grief? Which of the apostles suffered godly grief? How would you describe the difference between the two types of grief?
5. Read **2 Corinthians 13:5** aloud. What does it look like to practically apply this verse? How can we examine ourselves to see if we are in the faith?
6. In **Romans 1**, Paul talks about how God is righteous to judge sinners. In **chapter 2** he talks about the necessity of the law. Then in **chapter 3**, he talks about the free gift of

salvation, generously given by the grace of God, through no merit of our own. How does remembering our sin and brokenness help us have a fuller understanding of the beauty of God's gift of salvation? Why is it necessary to understand the law before we can fully understand the gospel?

7. Read **Romans 4:11** aloud. Then read **Galatians 3:7** and **3:29** aloud. How is Paul reframing our understanding of what it means to be in the family of faith? How does this parallel God's adoption of His children from among all the people He created?
8. How could Abraham have saving faith when Jesus hadn't even been born yet? (See **Romans 4:13-25** and **Hebrews 11:1-19**)
9. Read **Romans 8:28** aloud. What does this verse *not* mean? What does it mean?
10. What struggles (if any) did **Romans 9** present for you? What other Scriptures or resources have helped you work through those struggles?
11. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

Opening Prayer Suggestions:

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Rivertree Lake Bible Recap
Breakout Group Discussion Questions
Week 50-January 13

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Day 344 Rom 11-13
Day 345 Rom 14-16
Day 346 Acts 20-23
Day 347 Acts 24-26
Day 348 Acts 27-28
Day 349 Col 1-4; Phi 1
Day 350 Eph 1-6

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. Read **Romans 11:25-26** aloud. What do you think Paul means here? What other Scriptures inform your view?
3. In **Romans 13**, Paul talks about submitting to authorities and fulfilling the law of love. Which aspects of this chapter are most challenging to you? Why? How can Christ's example in that specific area serve as a guide and an encouragement to you?
4. Read **Romans 15:4** aloud. How have the Hebrew Scriptures given you hope? Which Old Testament stories and truths have been most impactful in strengthening your hope in God?
5. In **Acts 22**, the Jews are happy to hear Paul's testimony about Jesus until he mentions that this is good news for the Gentiles too. In **Luke 4**, Jesus experienced something similar. He had just announced to the synagogue that He was the Messiah, and they all spoke well of Him and marveled at His words in **4:22**. But by **4:28**, they were filled with wrath and trying to throw Him off a cliff. In between those verses, He had told them that God shows love and mercy to the Gentiles, who were their enemies. What do these two instances reveal to us about the challenges of nationalism facing the early church? Do you see any similar struggles in the church today?
6. Both Jesus and Paul take their message first to the Jews, then to the Gentiles. Why do you think they work in this order? Can you think of any Scriptures that point to the reasons behind this?

7. Read **Colossians 1:24** aloud. What does this verse *not* mean? What does it mean? What other verses help us understand this verse better? (see **John 19:28-30**)
8. How does the story of Philemon and Onesimus remind us of the hope of God's restoration and reconciliation? What does it reveal about the power of the gospel?
9. Read **Ephesians 1:11** aloud. If God works *all things* according to the counsel of His will, why do you think we tend to view some things as "too small" to pray about or seek His guidance on? What does this reveal about our view of God? What does this reveal about our view of ourselves?
10. Ephesians is Paul's first letter to the Gentiles. **Read 2:18-22** aloud. What phrases does Paul use to make sure they know they're included in God's family and that God dwells in them too?
11. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

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Rivertree Lake Bible Recap
Breakout Group Discussion Questions
Week 51-January 20

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Day 351 Phi 1-4
Day 352 1 Tim 1-6
Day 353 Titus 1-3
Day 354 1 Pet 1-5
Day 355 Heb 1-6
Day 356 Heb 7-10
Day 357 Heb 11-13

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. Read **Philippians 2:12-13** aloud. How does the command of verse 12 rely on the truth of verse 13? What is the danger in trying to disconnect the command from its root cause and source?
3. In Paul's letters to Timothy and Titus, he repeatedly mentions rebukes. He addresses who to rebuke (**1 Timothy 5:20; 2 Timothy 4:2, Titus 1:9, Titus 1:13, Titus 2:15**) and who *not* to rebuke (**1 Timothy 5:1**). What are some ways rebuke can be done rightly and what are some ways it can be done wrongly? What truths about others and about ourselves are important to remember when delivering a rebuke of any kind?
4. In Paul's lists of qualifications for elders, or overseers, in **1 Timothy 3** and **Titus 1**, he says they must be "above reproach." What does this phrase mean? What kinds of "reproachable" things would disqualify someone from that category that aren't already mentioned elsewhere in Paul's lists (found in **1 Timothy 3:1-7** and **Titus 1:5-9**).
5. Read **1 Peter 2:15-17** aloud. This is one of the places in Scripture where God's will for us is stated directly. What is it? Which aspect of God's will (from this list) is most challenging for you on a daily basis?
6. Read **Hebrews 3:12-13** aloud. *Exhort* means "to strongly encourage or urge someone to do something." How are we practicing this in our own community? What are some other ways we might engage in this?

7. Read **Hebrews 6:4-6** aloud. What parts of this passage are hard to understand or reconcile with what we know about salvation? Read **6:9-11** aloud. Does this context help you understand the way the author frames his earlier statement?
8. Why do you think the author of Hebrews continually reiterates that Christ's death was a once for all time event? What is the danger of thinking otherwise? If the readers of Hebrews at the time the letter is written are primarily Jewish, what additional doctrinal struggles might they have if they don't believe this?
9. What are some common misunderstandings about how the people in the Old Testament were saved? Why do you think it's easy to hold those views? Read **Hebrews 11:1-2** aloud. How does this passage—along with the other verses referencing that Christ's death was once for all time—help resolve and clarify this issue?
10. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?

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Rivertree Lake Bible Recap
Breakout Group Discussion Questions
Week 52 January 27

Open the breakout group discussion in prayer (see back)

Day 358 2 Tim 1-4
Day 359 2 Pet 1-3, Jude
Day 360 1 John 1-5
Day 361 2 John, 3 John
Day 362 Rev 1-5
Day 363 Rev 6-11
Day 364 Rev 12-18
Day 365 Rev 19-22

Questions

1. What were some things you learned this week?
2. Read **2 Timothy 4:3-4** aloud. In what ways do you see this manifesting in our world today? Where do you see it in your own life? What can you do to fight against it in your own life?
3. In **2 Peter 1:17-21**, Peter, who heard the audible voice of God the Father when Jesus was on earth, says there is something more sure or trustworthy than audible voices what is it? Why is it especially important for us to esteem the written Word of God above the words of teachers and prophets and even what we believe to be God's personal direction to us?
4. Read **2 Peter 3:8** aloud. What are some ways this verse might be misinterpreted? What are some ways it might be interpreted accurately (i.e., ways that fit with the rest of Scripture)?
5. What is the commonly held view of Satan and his role in hell? Read **2 Peter 2:4** and **Jude 1:6** aloud. How do these passages correct that view of Satan and his fallen angels?
6. Read **2 John 3:2** aloud. What was Jesus like when the disciples last saw Him? What hints might this text give us about our resurrection bodies?
7. Based on your current understanding of the biblical timeline, do you believe the prophecies of **Revelation 11** have already happened, will happen literally, or will happen symbolically to God's people? Why?

8. In all the destruction in the book of Revelation, did you ever feel like there was a moment when God wasn't in control? Is it helpful to remember His sovereignty in these trials? Why or why not?
9. In all of John's visions of beasts, the dragon, and the woman, which symbol seemed most straightforward and easiest for you to connect with the story of Israel? Which one was the most challenging for you to understand? Why?
10. Read **Revelation 19:11-16** aloud. What stands out to you most in this description of Jesus?
11. What is your favorite thing you read about God's character in your God shots from this week?
12. **What stands out to you most from your time in this Bible Recap reading plan? What is your favorite thing you've learned about God?**

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- Ask God to help each of us grow as Disciples of Jesus by studying the Bible