



Sacred City Church

Sermon-based Discussion for Missional Communities

When framing your Missional Community's discussion time around a sermon, the primary focus should *not* be simply doing a Bible study (that work of *exegesis* should have been done during the sermon itself), *nor* should it be simply recapping what was covered in the sermon. The primary focus should be exploring the *implications* for our lives and our life together.

To help do this well, these discussions should center on a flow of specific questions, detailed below. The spirit of these questions focuses on head, heart, and hands. Our aim is to understand the Word (head), so that we can apply it to our affections (heart), and to our lives (hands). You can think of like this:

- **Head:** What are the personal implications for me?
- **Heart:** What are the implications for our life in community together?
- **Hands:** What are the implications for our life on mission?

1. Prayer

Pray as you usually do focusing on gospel, community, and mission. Then begin the discussion.

2. Five Minute Sermon Recap

Have the group give a five minute recap of the sermon.

3. Read the Text

Read the Scripture text out loud.

4. Discuss

How did the Spirit speak to you through this text and sermon on Sunday?

Who is God? (What does this text and sermon tell us about God's character, his motives, and his identity?)

What has he done? (What do we see God doing in this text and sermon? What work do we observe?)

Who are we? (What does this passage tell us about our identity?)

How do we now live? (How is God calling us to live based on who we are, what he has done, and who he is?)

What gospel motives does this give us? How does it shape our love, hope, fears, and desires?

What are the implications for you personally?

What are the implications for us living in community together?

What are the implications for our life on mission to others?

5. Close in Prayer

Other helpful or general questions might be:

- What questions do you have?
- What do you find striking in the passage or story?
- How do you think the first readers or the people involved the story felt?
- How would you have reacted?
- What do we learn about God in this passage or story?
- What do we learn about human beings in this passage or story?
- Where have we seen this in the Bible story before?
- What in this passage points to Jesus or shows our need for Jesus?
- What are the links to our stories?
- When have you faced a similar challenge?
- How are we like the people in the passage or story?
- How does the passage challenge or encourage you?
- How does the passage help us see what it mean to walk in God's ways?
- When might you talk about this passage with a Christian?
- When might you talk about this passage with an unbeliever?