

Crossroads Covenant Church
sermon-based small group discussion guide for February 3, 2019

Getting to Know Us- building intimacy in your shared group

1. When making small-talk with people you are meeting for the first time, what topics are you most comfortable chatting about?

Getting into the Word- digging deeper into the message

1. The Lord gave the Sabbath to Israel as a holy covenant with them. Read what He commanded in Exodus 31:12-17. What does this passage reveal about the importance of this day of rest to God, a day so important that working on or profaning it carried a death penalty?
2. Read the parallel passages when the disciples were eating grains of wheat as recorded in Matt 12:1-8 and Mark 2:23-28. Both of these accounts include additional explanation not recorded by Luke (Matt 12:6-7 and Mark 2:27). Think on these other verses for a few minutes and discuss what Jesus meant.
3. The Bible teaches an absolute morality of good and evil, there is no “grey area”. When He healed the man’s hand, Jesus presented that to the religious leaders: even on the Sabbath day shall we do good or do evil? Read from James 4:17 and discuss how a decision to not do good is evil, also known as a “sin of omission”.

Application- sharing personal experiences

1. Pastor Aaron opened this week with the aphorism “authority wielded without wisdom is like a blunt axe”. Read from Ecclesiastes 10:10-17 and discuss the contrasts made between the wise man and the fool in a position of authority. Have you ever been under someone who was like a fool swinging a blunt axe? How did it impact your view of their leadership and their person?