

### **COMMUNITY Conversations** Nov 16th, 2025

#### **#CONNECTION**

Share the most significant thing that has happened in your life since the last time that you met.



#### OPENING PRAYER

Invite someone to open your time together in prayer.

#### **SCRIPTURE**

Luke 9:1 - 2

# **CONVERSATIONS**

- 1. Read Luke 16:19 31. In verse 31 Jesus says that if people won't listen to Moses and the Prophets that they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead. Why would people not necessarily be convinced of faith in God even if they experienced a miracle as great as meeting someone who rose from the dead?
- 2. Why is the belief that miracles happen -- or that they don't happen -- a philosophical question and not a scientific question? (Consider what difference it makes if you believe that the universe is a 'closed' or 'open' system.)
- 3. A miracle is an extraordinary event -- something that is a deviation from God's normal and natural way of working - which means that, by definition, miracles are rare. When we read the Bible we read about all kinds of miracles that God has done. What we often fail to notice is that there were often dozens of years and sometimes hundreds of years between the miracles.
  - a. As Christians should we still pray for and expect miracles today? Why or why not?

- b. Miraculous healings aren't just 'random' events that God does without reason or purpose. Instead, they are a sign that points to something greater. What is it that miraculous healings point to?
- c. If we are praying for healing, should we pray boldly for healing or simply that God's will be done in a person's life whatever that will is?
- 4. Read Luke 9:1 2. Pastor Tyler Staton writes: "Four out of the five times that Jesus told his disciples to declare the message of the Kingdom, he commanded them to heal the sick in the same breath....[Healing] is another ministry of the church like preaching, wisdom, encouragement, administration and prophecy. The Bible neither shies away from it nor sensationalizes it. It is not extra-special, nor is it hush-hush."
  - a. Do you agree that healing should be simply another ministry of the church? Why or why not?
  - b. If it was just another ministry of the church, consider how that might look for us at Ridge Church.
    - i. Read James 5:13 16. In our church we practice what James teaches here. (You can call the Elders of the church to come and pray for you and anoint you with oil -- just reach out to Pastor Jonathan). How is this practice of healing different from someone who has the gift of healing?
    - ii. Why should we be very wary of anyone who claims that they have a healing ministry?
    - iii. If you think you have the gift of healing, how can you 'fan it into flame?' (i.e. how can you strengthen that gift)
- 5. Have you ever experienced or witnessed a miraculous healing? If you are comfortable, share it with the group.
- 6. Clearly God doesn't heal every time that we pray.
  - a. How long should we keep praying for healing even if we aren't receiving healing?

- b. When people pray for healing and their prayers aren't answered, some people's faith grows stronger and others waivers.
  - i. Why do you think that is the case?
  - ii. What advice or wisdom would you give yourself if you were struggling with unanswered prayers for healing or what Bible verse or story would you turn to? Or, how could you strengthen and comfort someone else as they wrestled with unanswered prayers around suffering in their life?

# SPIRITUAL FORMATION PRACTICES (Prayerfully choose one.)

- 1. **Submit Your Gifts** | Spend time this week intentionally submitting your gifts to Jesus. Pray something simple like, "Lord, these gifts belong to You. Use them how You want, for the good of others and the glory of Your name." You might journal about how you've seen your gifts used before and ask the Spirit to purify your motives.
- 2. **Listening Prayer** | If you sense that you might have one of these gifts, then st aside 10–15 minutes of quiet with God. Begin by inviting the Holy Spirit to speak: "Come, Holy Spirit—what do You want to say to me or to someone I can serve?" Sit in stillness, paying attention to what rises in your heart (scripture, a picture, a person's name, or a phrase). Write it down, test it against Scripture, and if it seems loving and true, gently act on it.
- 3. **Mentorship/Learning** | Identify someone who walks closely with Jesus and practices the "power gifts" of the Spirit with humility. Reach out to learn from them: ask about their journey, what they've learned about discernment, and how they stay rooted in love. If you can't think of someone right now, you can reach out to our pastoral team and we'd love to help connect you!

# **RIDGE REMINDERS**

### PARKING WITH A PURPOSE

As our Sundays continue to grow, here's a friendly reminder to consider parking in the lot across from the Haney Pub House (kitty-corner to the church on Lougheed Highway). Let's leave the

closer spaces for young families, seniors, and first-time visitors. Walk a block for Jesus 🙌 and help make room for others to have an encounter with Him and our church family!

#### **SUNDAY SOCIAL**

Sunday, Nov 23rd (after service) | Ridge Church Lower Auditorium Enjoy an incredible meal prepared by Chef Robbie and our Hospitality Team — a perfect way to connect with your Community Group and others at Ridge!

# 🙏 EQUIP NIGHT – Prayer & Prophetic Ministry

### Sunday, Nov 23 | 7:00-9:00pm

An evening to discover more about prayer and prophetic ministry with Dan Steenson. This will be a great next step for those hungry to grow in hearing God's voice and ministering in His love.

Registration is required.

🎁 OCC SHOEBOX DROP OFF | 📅 Oct 19-Nov 23rd 📍 Ridge Church Office & Lobby

# **W** RIDGE SERVES:

- RIDGE KIDS is growing as fast as the kids are and we are looking for folks to show Jesus
  to the next generation once a month in all classrooms! Please reach out to Miss Laureen
  <a href="mailto:laureen@ridgechurch.ca">laureen@ridgechurch.ca</a> for more information.
- RIDGE HOSPITALITY TEAM is in need of more hands and hearts to serve once a month at our Sunday Socials! Please reach out to Dayna <a href="mailto:dayna@ridgechurch.ca">dayna@ridgechurch.ca</a>
- RIDGE USHER & COFFEE CREW's need more folks to help us serve Jesus on Sunday mornings! Please reach out to Dayna <a href="mailto:dayna@ridgechurch.ca">dayna@ridgechurch.ca</a>
- **FOOD BANK ON WHEELS** (Non-perishables) & **COMMUNITY HUB** (Clothing) donation bins are located in both entrances.

♣ SHARED COMMUNITY PRAYERS