

2017

BEST YEAR EVER

WEEK 3

DISCUSSION GUIDE

Introduction:

As we stand at the beginning of a new year, we are spending these first few weeks considering what it would take to make this year the best year ever. What change do you need to make personally to make sure this year is not simply a repeat of last year? What change do we need to make as a church to accomplish the goals God is placing before us in 2017? This week, we're talking about what it means to choose the right lord.

Scripture:

Matthew 16:15-18 - "Then he asked them, 'But who do you say I am?' Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'You are blessed, Simon son of John, because my Father in heaven has revealed this to you. You did not learn this from any human being. Now I say to you that you are Peter (which means 'rock'), and upon this rock I will build my church, and all the powers of hell will not conquer it.'"

Romans 10:13-15 - "For 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.' But how can they call on him to save them unless they believe in him? And how can they believe in him if they have never heard about him? And how can they hear about him unless someone tells them? And how will anyone go and tell them without being sent? That is why the Scriptures say, 'How beautiful are the feet of messengers who bring good news!'"

Discussion Questions:

1. Most of us have a tendency to upgrade or replace possessions that are not yet broken. Have you made any especially comical upgrades?
2. In Matthew 16, Jesus asks the disciples, "Who do you say I am?"
 - What does Peter's answer reveal about him?
 - How would you answer that same question?
3. What does it mean to you to say that Jesus is 'lord'?
4. Does the way you live consistently embody your answer to who you say that Jesus is? Is he always 'lord'?
5. It is challenging to constantly give Jesus the position of Lord. When you find yourself struggling with keeping Jesus on the throne, what is usually tugging for your attention instead?

Take the Next Step:

We all have a step to take: If you haven't yet begun a relationship with Jesus, today can be the day; Romans 10 makes it clear that all you need to do is call on his name. Ask a fellow small group member, friend, or pastor to walk you through the process if you're unsure about it. Already following Jesus? Then you know that this is a daily journey. What step can you take this week to put Jesus on the throne and trade frustration, anger, and guilt for the abundant life that Jesus has called you to?