

THIS IS US

Week 7 Leader Guide Legacy

45-60
minutes

SERMON RECAP: WHAT DID THE TEXT MEAN? WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

SAY THIS:

The message this week was full of news that will impact Rush Creek moving forward. As vital partners at Rush Creek I think it's best if we spend some time together processing what we heard. Perhaps we could put our questions on the table and see if we can find an answer now or submit them to the church and allow them to guide us. A good place to start is let's watch the video they showed in the service again to refresh our memory.

WATCH:

Succession Announcement video at <https://vimeo.com/318504285/5d90686e29>

-You can also find this video at rushcreek.org (will be posted at 1pm on 2/24)

-You will also be able to view the video on our Rush Creek facebook page beginning at 1pm on 2/24

SAY THIS:

The leadership at Rush Creek has collected some follow up questions and wanted to address those directly so they filmed a 2nd video and they wanted all of the groups at Rush Creek to be the first to see it and discuss it. Let's check it out.

WATCH:

FAQ video at <https://vimeo.com/317100080/777b8e0fb5>

-You can also find this video at rushcreek.org (will be posted at 1pm on 2/24)

-You will also be able to view the video on our Rush Creek facebook page beginning at 1pm on 2/24

ASK THIS:

1. What questions do you still have? If I can't answer it then we can contact the church and they will get us an answer.
2. Share with group 1-2 threats to unity this news could bring.
3. In light of the threats we just listed, how could we as a group & we as families protect the unity of Rush Creek?

Leader Tip: Make sure to listen attentively during these first three questions. It would be helpful to have a pen and notepad so you can jot down the questions you are unable to answer. For question #3 make sure you mention that as the body of Christ we are to guard against gossip and diffuse conflict and/or

tension instead of providing fuel for gossip. It's easy to think of scenarios that could upset people. Instead, encourage group members to protect the unity of the body by trusting the leadership and to ask questions when they are unclear.

SAY THIS:

The thoughtful planning from Pastor Russ and Pastor Marty reflects their desire that Rush Creek view herself as one church with multiple locations. A healthy church has healthy campuses and healthy campuses has healthy leaders and growing group members. So whichever campus you call home, we need you to be all there, invest, lead, serve, and help make Rush Creek the church God has called us to be.

4. When you hear 'one church multiple locations' what feelings does that well up in you? Excitement, joy, anxiety, hope, frustration, fear, peace, contentment etc.
5. In light of your feelings what is your typical reaction?
6. Now that you have heard the future plans for a change in leadership at Rush Creek what do you believe is the biggest need during this transitional time?

Leader Tip: Listen respectfully to each person. If no one says 'prayer' then reinforce this as the number one priority for Rush Creek during this period.

SAY THIS:

The biggest priority for Rush Creek during this transitional time is prayer. In fact, let's spend the last section of our time together in prayer for our church. Let's circle up into group of 3-4 and I will share a topic to pray for and then each person should take turns praying over the topic. As we go I'll keep mentioning topics.

Leader Tip: You might print this page out and hand to each group so it could be more of a guide for them.

Prayer Topics

Pastor Russ and Sue:

Pray for God's favor as they find joy during their last months as Lead Pastor at Rush Creek. Pray for God's favor on Pastor Russ' future ministry opportunities to invest in young pastors and church planters. Pray for Pastor Russ and Sue as they begin to make plans for a new normal as a family not leading Rush Creek. Pray that God would set a hedge of protection around Pastor Russ and Sue.

Pastor Marty and Stephanie:

Pray for God's favor as they prepare to assume leadership of Rush Creek should the church affirm the church council recommendation. Pray for Pastor Marty and Stephanie's family as they prepare to join the Green Oaks campus and establish a new normal. Ask for God's favor on Pastor Marty that his faith remains strong despite the unrelenting attacks from Satan that accompany a Lead Pastor. Pray for God to provide Pastor Marty clarity on the future direction and vision of Rush Creek.

Pastor Jeremiah and Leslie:

Pray for God's favor on Pastor Jeremiah and Leslie as they prepare to assume leadership of the Mira Lagos campus. Pray for Pastor Jeremiah and Leslie's family as they prepare to find a new normal as the demands of campus leadership are felt. Ask for God's favor on Pastor Jeremiah that his faith and his obedience to God's call on his life remain strong. Ask God to protect Jeremiah from all forms of discouragement, stress from transition, and designs from Satan.

Rush Creek Church Body:

Pray for the unity of Christ to dwell richly among all campuses of Rush Creek. Pray for a smooth transition as Blaine Mitchell begins his role as Worship Pastor at Mira Lagos and the Arlington Park campus welcomes a new worship leader. Ask God for protection from the schemes of Satan which seek to disrupt what God is doing in and through the people of Rush Creek. Pray for boldness to obey the Spirit of God while He pushes back the darkness through each partner of Rush Creek where we live, work, and play. Pray against all slander, gossip, conceit, diminishment and any other wickedness that Satan will try to use to cause division in our body.

Rush Creek Staff:

Pray for unity in the church staff. Pray that each staff member be devoted to mission and vision of Rush Creek. Ask God to provide strength and wisdom for the staff as they lead the ministries of the church. Pray for the staff to remain in complete support of Pastor Russ and Pastor Marty as the transition period progresses. Pray against gossip, conceit, suspicion, resentment, and any other wickedness that Satan will try and use to cause division amongst the church staff.

Leader Tip: Once you feel sufficient time has past (should take 30 or so minutes) then please close the prayer time. Remember, the church leadership want to hear questions that are being asked. So, even after group time is over if you hear of a question please let your campus pastor or groups pastor know and we will get an answer for you.