

## Small Group Discussion Guide – February 5, 2012

### "Face2Face - Seeing Jesus Again for the First Time" ~ the Gospel of John

**Pendulum Swings:** Pendulum swings, better known as icebreakers or getting started questions, are just a fun way to kickoff your small group time together by going from the not so serious to deeper connecting times.

As you begin your Small Group this week ... *"Would you rather ... ?"*

- ✓ ... ride a roller coaster or a mechanical bull?
- ✓ ... sweat because of exercise or because of humidity?
- ✓ ... be known as a generous giver or as someone full of joy?
- ✓ ... pray alone in a garden or w/ a group of your closest friends?
- ✓ ... pray all night or pray intensely for one (1) hour?

### **"The Pleasure of God"** (sermon notes from David Mathews)

**Intro: Pray together**

**Each week re-read John 20:30-31** as a reminder of John's purpose in writing this account of Jesus' life. "... so that you may believe... and that by believing you may have LIFE in his name."

**Scripture Passage: John 17**

1. What or maybe whose prayer(s), outside of those in scripture, have you heard that has impacted you the most?
2. Which prayer(s) in scripture has meant the most to you?
  - Why?
  - In what way did it impact you?
3. **Read John 17:1-5:**
  - In the first part of Jesus' prayer, about what is He most concerned?
  - What does 'glory' mean to Jesus?
  - How does 'glory' fit into eternal life in His prayer?
4. **Read John 17:6-19:**
  - What is His main concern for them as He is about to leave?
  - What does He ask God to do for those He is leaving behind?
  - In what ways do these verses in the prayer apply to our lives today?
5. **Read John 17:20-26:**
  - As He concludes His prayer, His desire for us is that we be one, just "as the Father and the Son are one."
  - Knowing that He prayed for this unity means that He believes that being one is possible.
  - Discuss how being one / unity is possible.
  - What assumptions, beliefs, actions, etc. might we have to change in order to truly be one and therefore unified in Jesus Christ and in God?