

The GlobalChurch Project
www.theglobalchurchproject.com



Joshva Raja

Group Discussion Guide

“Developing a Positive Theology of Media”

This resource is designed to help your group discussion. It's shaped to inspire you to consider new ways for understanding faith, theology, mission, and church. You don't need to cover all the questions. Allow for a time of response.

Group Preparation:

- Video: Joshva Raja, 15 minutes
- Scripture: Colossians 4:5
- Participants are encouraged to bring their own journals or writing materials.

Theme explored in the video:

Developing a Positive Theology of Media

Beginning the conversation

Consider the questions suggested below to start the conversation for your small group. They'll consolidate the content of the video, after you've viewed it.

1. What were the major themes in Joshva Raja's responses?
2. How does Joshva describe the key elements of a positive theology of media?
3. Discuss the difficulties of the content. What was difficult to understand? Was there anything you would like to clarify with the group?
4. Theological method: How is Joshva's theology informed and shaped by his practical ministry? What approaches does he take in understanding God in the context of his day-to-day experiences and discipling?

Going deeper

Explore the major themes raised in the video. Critically engage with Joshva's theology. Aside from discussing the issues theologically, think and talk about how to apply the principles in your own setting/s.

1. In "Searching for God in the Media Market," Joshva Raja challenges readers to establish a dialogue between theology and media disciplines. Why is this important?
2. How can theologians and Christian leaders begin to think about their perspectives, attitudes, and practices of media and technology?
3. How can Christian media personnel involved in religious broadcasting start to think about their profession theologically?
4. What's the hermeneutical role of imagination?
5. What role does theological aesthetics play?
6. How do we keep abreast of the opportunities and challenges presented by new genres and forms of media and communication today?
7. What role does the church and its theology have in critically engaging with media institutions and technologies that work around profit making and entertainment?
8. How can the people of God facilitate better community relationships, public theologies, and social transformation through media and communication?
9. How can we put theology and media and mission into a critical and constructive conversation?
10. How does our engagement with media and technology help us re-missionalize churches? How does it help us engage missionally with media spaces and technologies and institutions? How does it help us serve humanity in various ways using media and communication tools?
11. How do we integrate communication studies into ministry training and theological education?

Informing community

Facilitate the space for your group to respond to the discussion. You might consider this section as a personal time of written journal responses to the following questions.

1. What is God encouraging me, our small group and our community, to do?
2. In response to the issues raised in the video, what are areas I want to ask God for forgiveness in? How do I need to change? What does God want me to stand up for?
3. How do I need God to minister to me and my community, for us to better engage with the contextual issues of our community?
4. How can I (and we) gain a better understanding of the issues in this video? What do we ask that God would do in our hearts?

Prayer

Spend time in prayer over what you've learnt.

Invite the ministry of the Holy Spirit to clarify, heal, and inspire change for your participants and communities.

Links

Website: www.theglobalchurchproject.com

Book: Graham Hill, *GlobalChurch: Reshaping Our Conversations, Renewing Our Mission, Revitalizing Our Churches* (IVP Academic, 2015)