



Church Context: Christ Community (www.cccei.org) is a smaller congregation affiliated with the Christian Reformed Church (CRCNA), located about 90 minutes east of New York City here on Long Island. Christ Community has recently experienced renewal with new innovative projects like JSU and PRS as well as the launching of Community Groups.

Introduction: I was introduced to G&M, PRS, and JSU through Pastor Charles Kim. I was privileged to attend PRS in-person at the G&M Offices in New York City and was blown away with the power of listening to God's Word come to life with people in community. Seeing how well our previous JSU and PRS has been received at our church, I look forward to continually going down this path into working JSU and PRS into the DNA of our church.

Summary: January 2019 we launched our first JSU Book Study with "The Prodigal God," with around 25% of our church body. That book study was well received. It furthered conversations and also brought people together to share life together with one another in many ways.

Therefore, in the Fall of 2019, I felt convicted to lead another JSU Book Study for our church. We were recommended, "The Radical Disciple," by John Stott. In the previous book study, we allowed people to take their books home. But for this specific book study, we tried a different angle and kept the books at church and participants were not allowed to take it home. In return, the participants felt that the depth and gravity of the book was so deep that they wish they had the books at home to dive into it more. There were many that missed the practical applications that they got out from "The Prodigal God," that they didn't receive from "The Radical Disciple." At the same time, many felt challenged in a way to rethink discipleship and what it means to be a disciple. Lord willing, I pray we can continue to work towards developing new and innovative ways to study and bring together more opportunities for the church to grow and potentially use this as an outreach tool.

In regards to PRS, we have used it for our Men's Group Bible Study, as well as our Sunday School hour. We also have used it for our various Community Group gatherings as well. But from those three, the Sunday School hour has been best received. We've tried two different ways. First, was to take the time to only listen to scripture. Second, was to listen to a shorter portion of scripture before having some time for discussion. Our congregation geared more toward having discussion time and wanted to continue to wrestle with the allotted scripture together.

I praise God for these incredible resources and tools and I am thankful for them.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. James Lee, *Pastor*

Christ Community Church (East Islip, NY.)