

CONVERSATION STARTERS

SOUTHRIDGE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Oct 26, 2025

EAT TOGETHER | *Showing up regularly to share life and build relationships*

1. For those who've participated in the Community Bible Reading Plan, what has stood out to you in those readings?
2. When you think about "reputation vs. reality," where in life do you see the biggest gap between how things appear and how they actually are?

PRAY TOGETHER | *Joining in on conversations of life and faith*

1. We encourage you to watch as a group, the message [recap](#) to review the big ideas of the message. This will refresh our memories and result in richer conversations.
2. The sermon shared the story of Sardis—a city with an "impenetrable" reputation that fell twice because they became complacent and stopped being vigilant. Can you think of areas in your own life where early success or a strong start led to complacency? What happened?
3. Jesus told the church in Sardis: "*You have a reputation of being alive, but you are dead.*" That's pretty harsh! What do you think are the warning signs that someone's faith might be more about reputation than reality? How can we tell the difference in our own lives between genuinely being alive in our faith versus just maintaining appearances?
4. The message talked about how social media has made us all "experts in image-crafting and personal brand-management"—posting highlight reels while hiding the behind-the-scenes reality. In what ways does this culture of reputation-building make it harder to be honest about our spiritual struggles or faith journey? How can we create spaces (like Life Group) where reality matters more than reputation?
5. What is one big idea that you learned or impacted you from this message, that you can hold onto this week?

LOVE TOGETHER | *Being real to care and make a difference*

1. Tom's message challenged us to set some literal alarms on our phones as wake-up calls:
 - A daily time to spend with Jesus
 - A Sunday morning reminder for church gathering
 - Reminders for serving in our anchor causes, giving, spiritual friendships, etc.

Which of these alarms do you most need to set? What specific time and practice will you commit to?