COMMUNITY GROUP GUIDE

ALGO-RHYTHMS
Message Series

Loving God: When the Algorithm Becomes Our Theology
For the week of October 4, 2026

RVCC PARKLAND

The *Algo-Rhythms* series explores how the invisible systems curating our digital lives can shape what we pay attention to, what we believe, how we see ourselves, and how we relate to others. The goal is not simply to reject technology, but to embrace rhythms that allow Jesus—not an algorithm—to shape who we are becoming.

Bottom Line: Let the slow rhythms of Scripture, prayer, and community shape what you believe about God.

Icebreaker

1. What is one thing your phone, streaming service, or social media feed seems to know about you a little *too* well?

Read Matthew 22:37–40

2. Jesus says the greatest commandments are to love God, love our neighbor, and love ourselves. Why do you think what receives our attention has such a powerful effect on how well we love?

3. Algorithms are designed to learn what keeps us engaged and then show us more of it. Where have you noticed technology reinforcing something you already believe, prefer, fear, or get angry about?

Read Romans 12:1–2

4. Paul tells us not to be conformed to the patterns around us, but to be transformed through the renewing of our minds. What are some ways we can be "conformed" without realizing it?

5. The message emphasized that **information is not the same as wisdom**. What is the difference between knowing more information *about* God and actually knowing God?

Read 2 Corinthians 3:18

6. Paul connects transformation with beholding God. Why do you think relationship with Jesus changes us differently than simply consuming Christian information?

7. Four rhythms were suggested for being formed by Jesus: Scripture, Christian community, prayer, and repentance. Which of these most consistently shapes you right now? Which one needs more attention?

Read Psalm 1:1–3

8. The person in Psalm 1 is compared to a tree planted by streams of water. What do you think it looks like today to become deeply rooted in God instead of constantly being pulled toward whatever captures our attention next?

Application

Choose **one slow rhythm with Jesus** to intentionally practice every day this week. A simple place to begin is **Psalm 1:1–3**. Read these three verses slowly each day, sit quietly with God, and ask: **What does this passage show me about God, about myself, and about how I should live?**

Consider limiting another source of input during that same time—put your phone in another room, turn off notifications, or simply resist the urge to immediately move on to something else.

Close by praying that God would renew your minds and shape your group more deeply through relationship with Jesus than through the voices competing for your attention.

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RVCC GRAHAM

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Bottom Line: We are being conformed without consent by the algorithm.

Icebreaker

1. When you have a few completely unplanned minutes—waiting in line, sitting in the car, or waiting for someone—how quickly do you reach for your phone?

Read Matthew 22:37–40

2. Jesus says loving God with our mind is part of the greatest commandment. How can what we repeatedly watch, read, or scroll influence the way we think about God and other people?

Read 2 Corinthians 10:3–5

3. Paul says to "take captive every thought." What might that look like practically in a world where our feeds constantly put new thoughts, opinions, and outrage in front of us?

4. The message described an "attention economy" where platforms benefit from keeping us engaged. Why does anger or outrage seem especially effective at holding our attention?

5. Jeff said the algorithm can give us a version of reality that keeps us hooked, but it is not interested in helping us become the people Jesus wants us to become. Where have you noticed a tension between those two goals in your own life?

Read Romans 12:1–2

6. What do you think is the difference between passively consuming whatever is placed in front of us and intentionally renewing our minds?

7. The message said, "There has never been, and there never will be, a shortcut to loving God." Why are slower spiritual practices often harder for us than quick information or instant answers?

Read Psalm 1:1–3

8. Psalm 1 describes someone who meditates on God's Word "day and night." What would need to change in your current rhythms for God's voice to become louder than the algorithm?

Application

Grow slow with God this week. **Try the 3x7 Challenge from Sunday: 3 verses. 7 minutes. Every day.**
Read Psalm 1:1–3, then spend seven uninterrupted minutes with God. Don't rush to another chapter, another podcast, another devotional, or your phone. Sit with the same words and allow them to work on you throughout the week.
As you begin each day, ask: **"Who is shaping me more right now—Jesus or the algorithm?"**
Close by praying for awareness of the voices forming you and for the patience to allow Jesus to transform you through the slower rhythms of Scripture, prayer, and Christian community.