

Our Talk It Over is prepared each week by the teaching pastor and is designed to prompt insights, questions and dialogue based on the life experience of each listener. Using these in a group setting after hearing the message is similar to the practices of the early church in Israel.

ORDINATION SERVICE

- 1. How do you reconcile the concept of the "Priesthood of all Believers" with the church's practice of ordaining specific individuals for ministry? What roles or responsibilities should be unique to ordained leaders, and what should be shared by the broader faith community?
- 2. The ordination ceremony involves symbols like the clerical robe, red and white stoles, and the Chi Ro. How do these symbols deepen the significance of ordination for the community? What role does ritual and symbolism play in reinforcing spiritual truths or commitments in your own life?
- 3. We are to look to ordained pastors as examples of a God-centered life, but not to idolize them. How do you think a church community can maintain this balance effectively? What is the danger of placing leaders "on a pedestal," and how can congregations hold leaders accountable while still honoring them?
- 4. We can support church leaders through thanksgiving, prayer, and imitation. Which of these do you find the most impactful, and why? How can we actively participate in and support the ministry of their spiritual leaders beyond these three actions?
- 5. In what areas of your own life might you be called to model a "God-centered life" for others? How can you step into that responsibility, even if you're not an ordained leader?