



Sunday Teaching Discussion Guide: Launch Week 2: August 25, 2019

Recap:

- The teaching of Jesus shows us over and over again, as we learn to love God; we learn to love others.
- The apostle Paul writes about being a prisoner for the Lord, meaning that he is captivated by Jesus. He is rooted in Christ -- that is his center to return to. When we are rooted in Christ, we find a center in the things of his Kingdom: humility, patience, and love.
- Church isn't something we go to; it's something we belong to. We gather in worship, in relationship, and in serving so that we can learn how to be the church. We recharge and refuel when gathered together and then are sent out.
- In the church, each of us reaches forward and backward. We reach forward for the hand of someone to help us forward. We reach backward for the hand of someone to help forward.

Discuss:

1. READ EPHESIANS 4:1-7
2. Why do you think Paul wanted to use the body as a metaphor for the unity of Christ?
3. What do you think is a "life worthy of the calling you have received"? Is this different, the same, or similar for all people?
4. When Paul writes that we should "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace" (verse 3), what do you think "every effort" entails?
5. What are some of the gifts you think you have been given?
6. READ EPHESIANS 4:11-16
7. What do you think "the whole measure of the fullness of Christ means" in verse 13?
8. Why do you think service is so important for Christians?
9. Who is someone who helped you move forward in your faith? What did that person do?
10. Who is someone that you can help move forward in their faith? How can you help?

Pray: Invite members of your group to share prayer requests. Give a short prayer thanking God for your group discussion and asking God to be with the requests that have been shared.

Read at Home: Readings about Unity

- Psalm 133
- John 15:1-17
- 1 Corinthians 10:17