

Better Together... To grow in our faith.
Week's Reading: Ephesians 4:1-16
Discussion Guide, November 28, 2021

CHECK UP:

Memory Work Review: And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.
- Hebrews 10:24-25

How did you view the Christian life through the “communal lens” (rather than individual) this past week?

OPEN:

- How has the church (think people, not building or institution) helped strengthen your faith?

READ and ASK: Ephesians 4:1-16, Romans 12:3-8, Proverbs 27:17, 1 Peter 2:4-10

- Of all these texts, which truths of “better together” stick out to you most?
 - o Why is the individualistic idea of “just me and Jesus” not supported by the New Testament?
- When you read these texts do you get a picture of Christians being consumers or contributors?
 - o How can it be easy to settle for consumer Christianity?
- One of the threats to living “together” is to fall victim to the temptation to be a spectator. How is the Christian life not a “spectator sport”?
 - o How do these texts challenge us to get in the game?
- How does being in community enhance your faith as a follower of Jesus? What truths are found in these scriptures?
- What are some false expectations we can put on “doing life together” as a church? How can acknowledging them help us to embrace “togetherness”?

APPLY:

- What are some of the things that keep you from fully living the Christian life "together"?
 - o How might your spiritual growth be stunted as a result?

- NEXT STEP(S): What gifts or talents do you think God has given you to strengthen the family of believers? How can you exercise them?

Memory Work:

As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another. – Proverbs 27:17

Next Week's Reading: Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, James 5:13-16