

who needs church?

Week Two | Divided People | 04.25-26.2020

Grow Deep Conversation Questions: Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90 minute group gathering.

Message Recap:

» Opening

(2-3 minutes)

- Introductions - this is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members
- Housekeeping - clarify expectations
 - **Announcements:** These are in your Community News email. **Please read and communicate! Encourage participation!**
 - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting
 - **Remember there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.**
- Pray - open your time together in prayer

» Introduction

(12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: What are your thoughts on confrontation? How does this affect how you interact with others?
- Digging Deeper: Describe a time when you have been at odds with someone, without reconciliation. no matter what you tried?

» Observation | Read Ephesians 4:1-6

(15 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to this passage? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?

» Key Principle | Unity is worth fighting for.

(15 minutes)

- In what ways have you seen the Church leave the building? Has the Church helped others feel more united?
- What is the difference between unity and uniformity? Which one do you think most people think Christians care more about?
- What is the danger when we are divided? What does it mean that "divided people need a church that is united?"

» What is That Calling? | Reference Ephesians 4:1-6

(15 minutes)

- What are the things Paul references that we, as believers, are all called to?
- How do you live out the calling Paul talks about?
- What are some of the petty issues around us that cause us to become more divided? How can we stay out of that fight?

» Ways We Fight | Reference Ephesians 4:2

(15 minutes)

- What does a heart of humility look like? How do we live this out in our daily lives?
- What does gentleness look like in your day-to-day interactions? What are some ways you can extend gentleness to others?
- Do you consider yourself a patient person? Why is patience so difficult for so many of us? Who needs you to "bear" with them?
- Between humility, gentleness, and patience, which is the most difficult for you?

» Next Steps and Prayer |

(15 minutes)

- Do you think things have really changed in our culture or are we just biding our time until we can return to our old ways?
- What is something you have started doing during this time that you hope will continue when life returns to "normal?"
- What is one thing you can do this week to fight for unity?
- Close by praying for each other to reflect Jesus and for our community who have been hurt by church to see who Jesus really is in us.