

ONE ANOTHER

SERVE

Week Three | Accept One Another | 07.11-12.2020

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: Our world tells us that if we don't endorse someone or something, then we can't accept it. But Jesus modeled what it looked like to accept everyone as they were, even if He did not endorse everything about them.

» 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's your favorite clothing brand?
- Digging Deeper: Talk about what the difference is between accepting and affirming.

» Observation | Read Romans 12:14-21; Ephesians 4:1-3 (15 minutes)

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

» Key Principle | We can accept everyone without endorsing everything. (15 minutes)

- What does it mean to value people over preferences? What does that look like in your life, and why does it matter?

» Humble Peace | Reference Romans 12:14-21 (15 minutes)

- Give an example of when you were a sore loser. What did your response at that moment communicate to those with you?
- In this passage, Paul is describing an empathetic approach to caring for others, does that come naturally to you? Why or why not?
- Paul continues to break down what it means to respond to the Gospel; how does this passage impact you in blessing people rather than cursing them when it feels like they deserve it?

» Humble Unity | Reference Ephesians 4:1-3 (15 minutes)

- Who are the people or groups of people that you are holding at arm's length? What would it look like for you to pursue a deeper and more meaningful relationship with them?
- The unity that Paul talks about in Ephesians also requires humility; where is it most difficult for you to maintain humility and kindness?
- How can you seek God this week for greater personal humility? What can you learn that may help you humble yourself?

» Next Steps and Prayer | (15 minutes)

- How can you make room in your inner circle for new people?
- Is there someone in your life that you have unresolved conflict with? Use these verses and this challenge to ask God how you can humbly seek peace in the relationship. It's not our job to bring peace, but it's our job to seek it.
- Close by praying for each other to take some time this week to consider what it would be like to actually accept one another.