

Be with One Another

Discussion Guide

Week of June 18 - **"Bear with One Another"**

Scripture verse: Ephesians 4:2 and Colossians 3:13

LOOKING BACK:

1. Last week we were asked to reach out to someone who made an impact on our spiritual life. Were you able to make contact with that individual? Ask some of the more reserved members of the group if they're willing to share their experience? What was the result of reaching out and honoring these individuals?
2. We were also asked to consider writing a note to a member of the church staff to express your appreciation for the work they do to lead us into a deeper relationship with Christ. What did this look like for you? How do you imagine these notes were received? What kind of an impact would it make if these servants were encouraged and honored on an ongoing basis?
3. If you weren't able to reach out to someone last week, ask God to lay someone on your heart this week who needs your encouragement. Reach out to them!

OPENING QUESTION: Can you think back on a time when someone showed you patience or gentleness when you might not have deserved it?

LOOKING UP:

1. Ask someone to read Ephesians 4:2
2. There are four instructions in this short verse. Break down each piece of guidance, giving members a chance to give their understanding of what it means to:
 - a. Be completely humble. *Extra points for those who are able to discern being humble from being 'completely humble.'*
 - b. Be gentle.
 - c. Be patient.
 - d. Bear with one another in love. *Extra points for those who can discern just bearing versus bearing in love.*
3. *Read Colossians 3:13*
4. This verse talks about bearing and forgiving. Why do you think these two action items are listed together? How do they relate to each other in this verse and in dealing with others the way Jesus intends?

<p>READ THE PASSAGE</p> <p>Ephesians 4:2 Colossians 3:13</p> <p>Answer the first 2 questions after reading the passage</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What stood out to you most? 2. What was challenging or hard to understand? 3. What does this teach us about God? 4. What does this teach us about people? 	<p>RE-READ THE PASSAGE</p> <p>Read passage again using another Bible translation... then answer the last 2 questions</p>
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LOOKING FORWARD:

1. Is the Holy Spirit prompting you to feel compelled or convicted by what we've read or shared tonight?
2. These passages bring to mind the EGR (extra grace required) people. Is there someone in your circle that tries a bit more of your patience or perhaps involves more forgiveness as you bear

with them? How can you love them better this week? *Spend a few moments in quiet prayer as you ask the Lord to give you His wisdom in loving these people well.*