

Be with One Another

Discussion Guide

Week of July 9 – **Submit to One Another**

Scripture verse: Ephesians 5:15-21

LOOKING BACK:

1. Last week we brainstormed ideas for individual and group service ideas. Were you able to live out any of these ideas in the past week?
2. Have three or four people share their service experiences. What did God teach them during their service? How did the activity impact the rest of their week and their thoughts on continued service?
3. If you weren't able to serve in the way you'd hoped, pause and pray, asking God to lay on your heart how He wants you to serve this week.

OPENING QUESTION: When you hear the word 'submit' what immediately comes to mind? Is it a positive or negative connotation? What experiences have led to your beliefs about submission?

LOOKING UP:

1. Have someone in the group read Ephesians 5:15-21.
2. Without reading further into Ephesians, can anyone share from memory which verse about submission comes next? (Wives, submit to your husbands.....)
3. Share the following excerpt from Matthew Henry's Commentary with the group:
"There is a mutual submission that Christians owe one to another, condescending to bear one another's burdens: not advancing themselves above others, nor domineering over one another and giving laws to one

another. Paul was an example of this truly Christian temper, for he *became all things to all men*. We must be of a yielding and of a submissive spirit, and ready to all the duties of the respective places and stations that God has allotted to us in the world.”

4. Has your personal focus of Christian submission been only verse 22, rather than Christ’s intention of us submitting to one another, not only our spouse?
5. Thinking about the believers in your daily life, in what ways could you begin submitting to others in reverence for Christ?

<p>READ THE PASSAGE Ephesians 5:15-21</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 the passage again using another Bible translation... then answer the last 2 questions</p>
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LOOKING FORWARD:

1. The Oxford dictionary definition of *submit* is: *to accept or yield to a superior force or to the authority or will of another person*. Keeping in mind our submission to anyone else in line with Christ’s instruction ultimately pleases God, does this change your mindset on what submitting means? How so?
2. Ask someone to pray for hearts to be softened towards submission. Specifically ask for God to make the way for opportunities to act out Christlike submission to other Christians.
3. Have everyone come up with two ways they can submit in the coming week, be it to a spouse, Christian co-worker, family member, etc.

