

# Lifegroup Curriculum: Week 1

## Looking Back (15 mins)

### Family Time

1. Vision Statement:
  - Explain the vision of your lifegroup. Invite someone in your lifegroup to share your vision piece next time.
2. Icebreaker Question:
  - What's one strength you have that you bring to a group?
3. Check-Ins:
  - Life updates from the previous week(s), prayer requests, praise reports.

## Looking Up

### Worship (~12 mins)

- [The Kingdom Is Yours](#) - Common Hymnal
- [Firm Foundation \("He Won't"\)](#) - Cody Carnes

### Bible Study (30 mins)

Context: 1 Corinthians 12:1-26

In Paul's letter to the Corinthians he writes about the diversity of spiritual gifts in the body of Christ (the Church). Each member of the body is important, needed, and one member is not superior over the other. In fact, Paul talks about giving more care to the parts we deem weaker or less honorable. If one part of the body suffers, the entire suffers together. And if one part of the body rejoices, the entire body rejoices together.

#### 1 Corinthians 12:27, NIV

*"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."*

#### 1 Corinthians 12:27, MSG

*"You are Christ's body—that's who you are! You must never forget this. Only as you accept your part of that body does your 'part' mean anything."*

#### 1 Corinthians 12:27, NASB

*"Now you are Christ's body, and individually members of it."*

## 1 Corinthians 12:27, TPT

*"You are the body of the Anointed One, and each of you is a unique and vital part of it."*

### Discussion Questions

We each individually need others in the body of Christ! This past Sunday, Pastor John highlighted how necessary it is to intentionally plant ourselves in community with people who don't always talk, act, or think the way we do. Though this feels challenging, it is important for our long term growth to be surrounded by people who are not like us. You have a place in this community and a role in this body....and people you may disagree with have a place in this community and a role in this body as well!

Take the apostles: Jesus purposefully called Judas the Zealot and Matthew the Tax Collector to do ministry together. As a Zealot, Judas likely was an enemy of the Romans, while Matthew likely supported the Romans as a tax collector. But God had a destiny for both of them, as individuals and as partners in His Church.

With all this in mind:

- What are your initial thoughts when you read this verse?
- Think about your current context:
  - Who do you find difficult to be in relationship or get along with?
  - Which adjectives would you use to describe the feelings that come up around these people/this person?

Reflection (5 minutes) - you can optionally play [instrumental worship](#) during this time:

Let's take a moment to pause and reflect. Again, you have a role and a place in the body, but so do those you disagree with. In order for us to help cultivate these spaces for unity, we need to see people the way Jesus sees us.

Take some time to ask Jesus:

- How do you see me? What part of the body am I, and what does that look like within this community? What words of identity do you want to say to me?
- How do you see this person/people? What strengths and identity do you see in them? What are ways I have allowed frustration or bitterness get in the way of how you see them?
- Ask the Lord to help you this week to see yourself and that person with His eyes.

## Looking Forward (15 mins)

Break into groups of 3-4:

- What's something you felt God say to you tonight? What is one way you want to keep these truths in mind this week? (write it out, speak it over yourself, save art that represents it on your phone home screen, etc.)
- What's one practical way you can intentionally connect with or extend kindness to the person/people that are challenging for you? How can our community support you and champion you in that?
- Take some time to pray for one another.