

COVENANT

The Week of October 17, 2021 Covenant Community Conversation Guide

Last Week

- How is the new covenant a fulfillment of God's original covenant with the nation of Israel? (Check out last week's Conversation Guide).
- Have you submitted yourself to the authority of Jesus as your Savior and King and signed your name on this new covenant? Learn more at icelebration.org/fresh-start



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This Week's Take Aways

- **About the Church:** (Ephesians 4:11-16) The church is a body of baptized believers who have been bought by the blood of Christ and are bound together by the Holy Spirit. The church is the body of Christ and exists to carry out His purposes on the earth.
- **I am engaged in the church:** (Acts 2:46-47) I consistently connect with my church body for fellowship and community while using my spiritual gifts for ministry and encouragement.



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Intro Questions

- What's the last project you started but never finished?
- Give an example of a time you tried to do something on your own, when you really needed to ask for help.
- When was the last time you asked for help? Why are we hesitant to ask for help?
- Share a time that your church family helped and served you.
- Can you really be a part of the church family if you aren't truly engaging with others?



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Jesus is the Head

Ephesians 4:15-16

But speaking the truth in love, let us grow in every way into him who is the head – Christ. From him the whole body, fitted and knit together by every supporting ligament, promotes the growth of the body for building itself up in love by the proper working of each individual part.

- Why is it essential that Christ be the head of the church? How does this effect our unity and ability to carry out His mission for us in the world?



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Relate to each other in Christ

Romans 12:1-18

Therefore, brothers and sisters, in view of the mercies of God, I urge you to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God; this is your true worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may discern what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God.

For by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he should think. Instead, think sensibly, as God has distributed a measure of faith to each one. Now as we have many parts in one body, and all the parts do not have the same function, in the same way we who are many are one body in Christ



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and individually members of one another. According to the grace given to us, we have different gifts: If prophecy, use it according to the proportion of one's faith; if service, use it in service; if teaching, in teaching; if exhorting, in exhortation; giving, with generosity; leading, with diligence; showing mercy, with cheerfulness.

Let love be without hypocrisy. Detest evil; cling to what is good. Love one another deeply as brothers and sisters. Take the lead in honoring one another. Do not lack diligence in zeal; be fervent in the Spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; be persistent in prayer. Share with the saints in their needs; pursue hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud; instead, associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own estimation. Do not repay anyone



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evil for evil. Give careful thought to do what is honorable in everyone's eyes. If possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Romans 14:7-9

For none of us lives for himself, and no one dies for himself. If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. Christ died and returned to life for this: that he might be Lord over both the dead and the living.

- Make a list from these passages of all the ways that relationships in the Church are different from other relationships.
- How do Spiritual Gifts provide the basis for Christ-honoring relationships within the body?
- Can Spiritual Gifts be used in isolation?



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Hebrews 10:19-25

Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have boldness to enter the sanctuary through the blood of Jesus — he has inaugurated for us a new and living way through the curtain (that is, through his flesh) — and since we have a great high priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed in pure water. Let us hold on to the confession of our hope without wavering, since he who promised is faithful. And let us consider one another in order to provoke love and good works, not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching.

- Make a list of practical ways to provoke (stir up, stimulate, or incite) others to love and good works.



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Next Steps

- Look at your list of ways to provoke to love and good works. Pick 1-2 to do this week and pray for the Spirit to guide and equip you.
- Have you joined Celebration yet (or the church you attend)? Pray about whether this is the time for you to join and visit icelebration.org/fresh-start to learn more.



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