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WEEKLY APPLICATION

TAKEAWAY: God's intent is to strengthen us by committing to what unites us.

HEAD CHANGE: Jesus is more interested in commitment than He is in maturity.

HEART CHANGE: The Church is not simply a gathering you attend; it is a family you join.

LIFE CHANGE: Commit to being a part of building God's family.

OVERVIEW

As we move forward together as followers of Jesus, we need partners for this journey, a community to help us along the way. Jesus invites all who follow him to be a part of a new family. This family of God is not a social club or a group of friends who look, think, and talk similarly. But rather a community of people committed to following Jesus' way of life. And despite the work it takes, the fights we will endure, and the learning we will do along the way; together we are figuring out how to be with Jesus, become like him, and do what he did.

"And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God."

-Ephesians 3:18-19-

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What has stood out to you in recent teachings about Community? Why do you think that has stood out to you?
- 2. What role has community and family played in your life with Jesus over the years?
- 3. What hopes do you have for our community as it relates to growing like a family (whether small group or whole church) in the weeks and months ahead?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you inviting me to be a part of something so much bigger than me. Reveal to me the areas of my life where I have been causing division within your family and how instead I may be more committed to constructing unity. I want to love you, and love people the same way you love me. Holy Spirit, I invite you to teach me how to love more like Jesus and less like my own preferences. In Jesus' name, amen.

IN THIS TOGETHER!