

Summer Traditions Cheer for Your Team

TALK IT OVER

Key Scripture

"¹⁷ As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens the wits of another." – Proverbs 27:17 (GW)

"²⁶ Brothers and sisters, consider what you were when God called you to be Christians. Not many of you were wise from a human point of view. You were not in powerful positions or in the upper social classes. ²⁷ But God chose what the world considers nonsense to put wise people to shame". - 1 Corinthians 1:26-27 (GW)

"¹² For example, the body is one unit and yet has many parts. As all the parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ By one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Whether we are Jewish or Greek, slave or free, God gave all of us one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ As you know, the human body is not made up of only one part, but of many parts. ¹⁵ Suppose a foot says, "I'm not a hand, so I'm not part of the body..." ¹⁸ So God put each and every part of the body together as he wanted it. ¹⁹ How could it be a body if it only had one part? ²⁰ So there are many parts but one body." - 1 Corinthians 12:12-20 (GW)

"¹⁰ Whenever we have the opportunity, we have to do what is good for everyone, especially for the family of believers." – Galatians 6:10 (GW)

"He is also the head of the church, which is his body." - Colossians 1:18 (GW)

"¹² As holy people whom God has chosen and loved, be sympathetic, kind, humble, gentle, and patient. ¹³ Put up with each other, and forgive each other if anyone has a complaint. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. ¹⁴ Above all, be loving. This ties everything together perfectly. ¹⁵ Also, let Christ's peace control you. God has called you into this peace by bringing you into one body. Be thankful. ¹⁶ Let Christ's word with all its wisdom and richness live in you. Use psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to teach and instruct yourselves about God's kindness. Sing to God in your hearts. ¹⁷ Everything you say or do should be done in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." – Colossians 3:12-17 (GW)

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Start talking. Find a conversation starter for your group.

- What is your favorite summer sport?
- What was one of the best teams you were ever a part of?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get your group thinking.

- Read 1 Corinthians 1:26-27. How did Jesus choose His disciples differently than most Rabbis did at the time? If you were on a universe-saving mission, would you have chosen the disciples that He did?
- Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-20 and Colossians 1:18. Why do you think God had Paul use the "body" analogy to refer to the church?
- In your opinion, what's the most compelling part of Col. 3:12-17?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- What are reasons that cause us not engage fully in the Body of Christ?
- Are there other teams that sometimes try to take the primary place in our lives, instead of our "Body of Christ" team?
- As members of the Body of Christ, what things do we share in common with other Christians that we may have never met?
- Why is local church membership an important part of a Christian's faith walk?
- Why is it important to love the church you have, instead of the church of your dreams?

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Plan to go out to lunch after worship with someone from church.
- Invite someone from church that you don't know that well over for dinner.
- Invite someone new to your LIFEGroup.

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

- "God - Satan wants to divide, you desire to unite. Christianity is a team sport – help me remember that and avoid my tendencies to go it alone. Help me to seek community even in spite of my nervousness, and to be sharpened by others. In Jesus' name, Amen."

Trios: Split into same-gender groups of three for 15 minutes:

- What has God's Word been teaching you this week? Is there anything you need to repent of?
- What's something you'd like someone else to check in with you about this week?
- How's your weekly 3-2-1 challenge going?