What About the Church?

Admin

Remind the group about the Alpha celebration or provide details about church on Sunday. Make a date for a small group reunion. This could possibly be at the host's home, ideally about two weeks before the next Alpha starts, or sooner if appropriate.

Ask the guests to complete the Alpha questionnaire to give feedback on their experience.

Key Concept

Today the church, as an institution, gets a lot of negative press.

Some see the church as an organization that abuses people or has some political agenda. This is certainly a different picture than what Jesus drew for His disciples when He described a church that would "prevail against the gates of hell and become hope for the world." In this session, we help people rethink their understanding of the church as an organization and begin to understand the value of Christian fellowship and to see how involvement could have a positive impact in their lives.

Questions for discussion

- Go around the group asking each person to summarize what they have learned and experienced over the past eleven sessions. (Try to start with the most open/ positive person).
- Ask the group what they would like to do after Alpha.Try to encourage them to stay connected as a group.
- 3. Ask each of them if there is anything they would like prayer for.
- 4. Pray—it's a good idea to finish the final session with prayer.

Optional questions for further discussion

1.	What comes to mind when you hear the words "church" or "Christian"?
2.	Look back on the last eleven sessions. Has your view changed?
3.	Looking forward, in what way (if any) do you plan to continue what you've started in Alpha?
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