

Discussion Questions

INTRODUCTION

What if we could see the connection between how engaged we are with our church family and how close we really are with Jesus?

GETTING STARTED

1. Share about how your family celebrates together. What do they specifically do to throw a party? What kind of food do they make? What memories do you have of these events?

BIBLE IDEA

2. Read John 15:9-13. What does 'to abide' mean? How can we truly **love** (*care for, pray with, forgive, get along with, help, support, listen to, encourage*) **one another** (vs. 12)?
3. Read Colossians 3:12-14. List the ways we are to love each other as a church. What makes this hard to do? How have you recently seen one of these virtues play out in your life?
4. Read Colossians 3:15-17. Express your gratitude for the Lord and for others. Be specific. How can we continue to let the message of Christ dwell among us?
5. Read Ephesians 4:14-16. How can we avoid being 'tossed around by waves' of bad doctrine and evil leaders? What does 'speaking the truth in love' look like? What creates spiritual growth in the church (vs. 15 & 16)?
6. Read Hebrews 10:22-25. As a church family, what action steps are given to us to grow and remain in Jesus? Talk about the importance of living life connected to others, and how it relates to staying close to Jesus.

NEXT STEPS

7. What step will you take this week to remain close to Jesus? How will you engage your church family to help you?