

Encounter

Discussion Guide

Week of November 19 - **"Where Do We Go From Here"**

Scripture verse: John 15:1-17

LOOKING BACK:

1. What has the Lord been telling you in your quiet time since our last session?
2. Last session's assignment: Each morning... pray this prayer "Lord, I am going to listen closely to what you say today... so, please speak to me and I will respond in faith"?
3. What did you write down?

OPENING QUESTIONS: The church... God's people... have been given a mission to accomplish. This includes obeying the commands He gave us. What commands has Jesus given his church? Try as a group listing a few you may know or have heard other believers say. Is the church on this mission? Is your small group on Jesus' mission? Are you on mission with Jesus? Would it be obvious to others near you?

LOOKING UP:

1. What happens to fruit that separates from branches and falls to the ground?
2. Describe the relationship between the produce and its connecting branch? What is the source of good tasting fruit?
3. What is at the source of loving others?
4. Why is it important to be connected to the source? What are the consequences of disconnecting?

<p>READ THE PASSAGE</p> <p>John 15:1-17</p> <p>Answer the first 2 questions after reading the passage</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What stood out to you most? 2. What was challenging or hard to understand? 3. What does this teach us about God? 4. What does this teach us about people? 	<p>RE-READ THE PASSAGE</p> <p>Read the passage again using another Bible translation... then answer the last 2 questions</p>
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LOOKING FORWARD:

LEADER NOTE: Take a full sheet of blank paper (per person) and fold it in half (landscape). Now you have 4

surfaces to write or journal. Provide pens for each person. Also, consider having instrumental worship music in the background SOFTLY playing. [15 minutes of music]

1. [15 minutes] Direct people to journal. Spend time connecting with the Father. Quietly, write down a prayer. Focus on thanksgiving or focus on reconnecting to the vine.
2. Next, ask the Holy Spirit to bring to mind someone near you who could use encouragement through an act of kindness. Reach out to this person. Invite him or her for a meal at your table. Serve this person in some way, possibly write an encouraging note, text, or social media post.