

The Church That is Easy to Love Discussion Guide | September 22, 2019 Ephesians 4:1-16 Questions for Study and Discussion

**Before you begin, please read Ephesians 4:1-16 as a group.

- 1. Share examples that come to mind where someone made sacrifices to be part of something bigger than themselves. (These examples could be from your own life or the life of someone you know, a story you've heard, a movie you've seen, etc.) Why are people often drawn to serve a mission bigger than themselves?
- 2. What does it mean to be "on mission" for God? (Need a hint? Check out Matthew 28:19-20 and Acts 1:8.)
- 3. "No one can do everything, but everyone can do something." How does this quote apply to the mission God gives His people?
- 4. Different roadblocks can keep people from contributing to a mission larger than themselves. Some of these roadblocks may include (1) a desire for comfort, (2) thinking we don't have anything of value to offer, or (3) fear about trying something big. Can you think of any other roadblocks that might keep people from getting involved in a mission larger than themselves? List any more that come to mind.
- 5. Can you relate in a special way to any of these roadblocks? What have you done to overcome them in the past? Or, what would it take for you to overcome them now?
- 6. Look closely at Ephesians 4:11-12. Using language straight from the passage, for what purpose do certain church leaders (apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers) serve the church?
- 7. How does this influence the way you think about church? What does this mean for you?
- 8. From Ephesians 4:11-16, what happens in the church "as each part does its work" (v. 16)?
- 9. How do these last two questions reinforce the importance of everyone at church being "on mission" and playing an important role in the larger body of Christ? (Read 1 Corinthians 12:4-30 for more on this.)
- 10. Let's get practical. What specifically does it look like for you to be "on mission" for Jesus, in your particular life circumstances? In what ways have you been contributing? If you're not currently contributing, what steps can you take in this direction?
- 11. What joys have you experienced from being "on mission" for God? Why is it worth it?
- 12. **Challenge: Memorize Ephesians 4:11-12**: 11 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, 12 to equip his people for works for service, so that the body of Christ may be built up...