

The Heart of the Matter

14. How can we experience more “community” among our church family? What can you do to strengthen “community” at Bethel?

15. This past year has been a tough year. Who and what gives you hope as we head into 2021?

16. Is your happiness in the Lord expressed in the way you sing on Sundays? Take a moment right now in your Life Group or with your family members and practice saying something or singing something with emphasis. If you don’t know what to say or sing...try pronouncing the word “emphasis” in various ways. EX. (EM-pha-sis), or (em-PHA-sis), or (em-pha-SIS). Practice raising your eyebrows up and down on each stressed syllable. Have fun laughing together!!!

17. How are we filled with joy and peace? Whose responsibility is it? What is God’s role? What is our role?

Praises and Prayer Requests



Life Group Study Guide

A Farewell to a Strange Hybrid Community Romans 15:7-13 For the Week of December 13, 2020

Getting Started

1. What idea, thought or application got your attention from this past Sunday’s message?
2. Have you ever had to say a farewell to a person, place or thing? What emotions did you experience?
3. When you think of the word “community,” what comes to mind? Can you think about something that illustrates your thoughts?
4. What do you think it takes to be a “Bethelite”? Do you feel like there is an “in crowd” and an “out crowd” at BCC? If so...what part can you play in changing that?

Digging Deeper

5. How are we to act toward one another (15:1-3)? Why are we to seek to please our neighbor? Who is your neighbor? What are some ways you could please your neighbor?

6. How does endurance and the encouragement of the Bible give us hope (15:4-5)? What does the Apostle Paul pray for in regards to the believers in Rome (15:5-6)?

7. In light of what Paul has written in verses 1-6, what does he conclude in verse 7? Why should we do this? What does it mean to glorify God?

8. Having pointed to Jesus Christ as the Model for us, what two purposes did God have for Jesus' ministry (15:8-9)?

9. We are instructed in this passage to glorify God. How are we to glorify God individually and as a church family? How does this affect our attitude toward music, preaching and ministry preferences?

10. What is the common theme of the four Old Testament passages that are quoted in verses 9-12?

11. What are some of your favorite Christmas carols? What is a favorite worship song? Hymn?

12. The word "rejoice" means an expression of happiness. What gives you joy in life? We are to express our joy in our praising the Lord "with His people" (vv 9, 10, 11). How can we have greater joy in our worship together?

13. What encouragement does verse 13 give us? How can we experience these characteristics to a greater degree?