



January 23rd, 2022

Series - Membership: Unimpressive but Authentic

Text - Ephesians 4: 7-16

Title: Why Are We Family?

Outline - What is our purpose?

- 1) To follow our King - vv. 7-10
 - a) Jesus descended
 - b) Jesus ascended
 - c) Jesus gave gifts
- 2) To build his kingdom - vv. 11-12
 - a) Jesus gives leaders
 - b) Leaders equip members
 - c) Members conduct ministry
- 3) To become just like him - vv. 13-16
 - a) Arrive there together
 - b) Fight for each other
 - c) Grow fully mature

Potential Discussion Questions

- On Sunday we talked a lot about what Family Groups are and what they are meant to foster. If you haven't already, you could follow up by doing one of the following:
 - Discuss the Family Group purpose statement: "an intentional environment for people to be transformed by the gospel through relationships"
 - Process what "intentional gospel relationships" are and are not (let the group come up with their own descriptions)
- Optional opening question: In thirty seconds how many of the 100 "one anothers" can your group name? Now how many one anothers can you come up with that are *not* in the New Testament? How are the two lists different?

- Optional discussion questions: Read Ephesians 4:7-16. What does this passage teach us about gifts and their diversity in the church? What's one way God has uniquely shaped you to build up the body of Christ? (and it's ok to answer "I'm not sure"—facilitators, encourage the group to speak into one another's lives here) Why do you think God designed his church in such a way that our growth depends on one another? What does it look like to fight for each other to grow fully mature?
- Optional application question: How can our group foster a cycle of transparency, vulnerability, and trust? (see definitions below if needed)
 - Transparency: raw honesty with others
 - Vulnerability: openness to others' care
 - Trust: the foundation of true relationship

-

Next Sunday's Sermon Passage - Acts 2:42-47