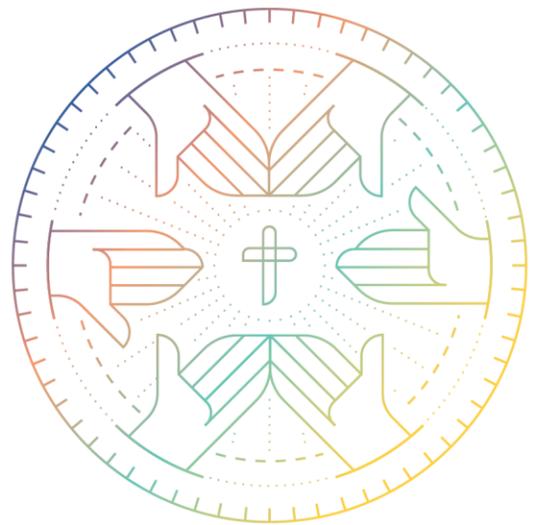


# Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



## ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

What was your favorite costume you have worn as a child or adult? Or share a fun costume story.

## INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

In this week's passage, Paul continues to discuss mutual submission first mentioned in Ephesians 5:21, and how that plays out in the workplace. Paul speaks to the context of the day in the working relationship between bondservants and masters. It is important to note that racial factors played no role in who was considered a bondservant. Many bondservants reasonably expected to gain their freedom during their lifetime with many becoming free by age 30. Bondservants worked in a variety of specialized and responsible positions including supervising and managing other people. Many bondservants received education and training in specialized skills and performed important roles in society including doctors and politicians. Finally, freed bondservants often became Roman citizens and developed a client relationship with their former masters.

## INTO THE WORD (25 MINUTES)

1. Read Genesis 3:1-7, Matthew 4:3, John 8:44, John 10:10, 1 Peter 5:8, and Revelation 12:10. What characteristics about the devil stick out to you from these passages?
2. Read Ephesians 6:10-11 and 1 John 4:4. What stands out to you from Paul and John's guidance to believers?
3. Read Ephesians 6:12-13. How does understanding that our fight isn't against people (flesh and blood) help us to understand how we are to stand firm and withstand the evil day?

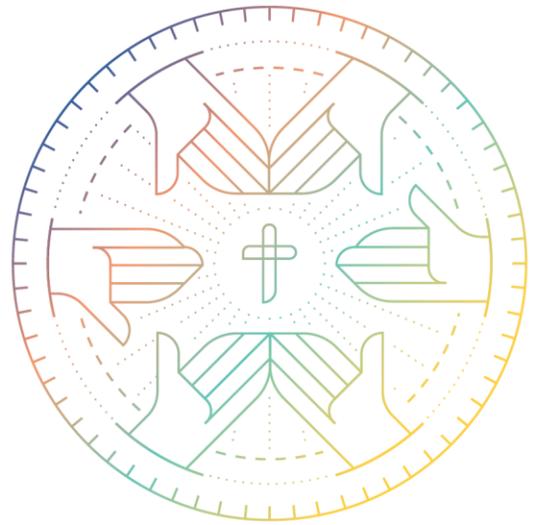
## APPLICATION (25 MINUTES)

1. Share an example when you have experienced the devil's opposition in living out your calling? How did you overcome that?
2. Read James 4:7-8. James lists five things we can do practically to stand firm this week.
  - Submit to God
  - Resist the devil
  - Draw near to God
  - Cleanse your hands
  - Purify your heartsWhich one of these do you want to prioritize this week and why?

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## PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

*Dear heavenly Father,  
Help us to be strong in the Lord being strengthened by your might. May we put on the armor that you provide so that we will stand against the schemes of the devil. Help us to be reminded that our battle isn't against other people but against spiritual forces. May we view our neighbors and see them as you see them. Thank you, Lord, that we can stand against the devil as we submit to you. We pray all these things in your wonderful name. Amen.*