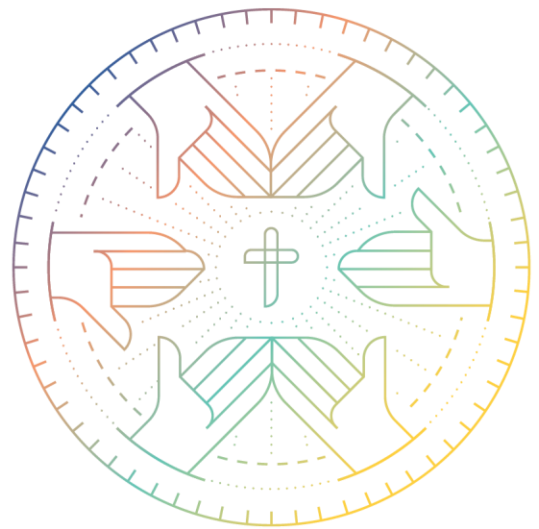


Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

What is something that you love and why? (Examples, a sports team, movie, author, hobby, etc.)

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

Anchor Verses: 2 Peter 1:7-8

This week we will focus on the building blocks of brotherly affection and love. We will be reminded that our spiritual growth is up to us and that we can be empowered by experiencing the love of God.

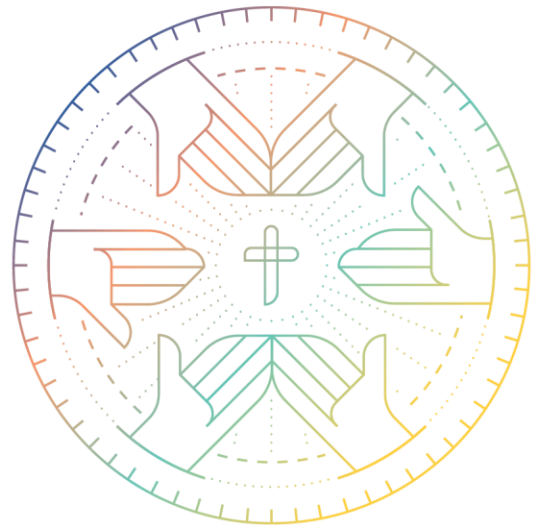
INTO THE WORD (25 MINUTES)

1. Read 1 Peter 1:22, 1 John 4:20, and John 13:34-35. Two critical aspects of the building block of brotherly love are how it shows how natural our new life in Jesus is and how it can make the rest of the body of Christ stronger and more confident. Of these two aspects, which one stands out to you and why?
2. Read Romans 2:10, Ephesians 2:12, and 1 Peter 4:8. Do you ever struggle to show affection toward other Christians? What things make it hard to love other Christians?
3. Read 1 Corinthians 16:14, 1 John 4:8, and Romans 5:8. When thinking about love, it is essential to be reminded of four radical ideas about love:
 - a. God is love and cannot be genuinely known apart from love. To know God, you must experience His love.
 - b. God wants our love and friendship, not just our proper behavior.
 - c. God can't help loving you. It's His nature. He loves you deeply and extravagantly – just as you are.
 - d. God loves sinners, redeems failures, delights in second chances, and never tires of pursuing lost sheep.

Of the ideas listed, which one sticks out to you and why?

Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



APPLICATION (25 MINUTES)

1. Read Romans 12:9-10, 1 Thessalonians 4:9, and Ephesians 4:1-2. What would brotherly affection look like for you in your life this week?
2. Read 1 Thessalonians 3:12 and Philippians 1:9. Where in love do you need to grow in your capacity to love this week?
3. Over the last few weeks, we have looked at eight building blocks of faith. Which building block do you need to grow in, and what is one practical step you can take this week to begin to develop in your life?

PRAYER (10 MINUTES)

Dear heavenly Father, thank you for the great promises that you have given us so that we may become partakers of your divine nature. May we make every effort to grow in self-control, steadfastness, and godliness so that we may be effective and fruitful in growing to become more like you. We are humbled by the heavy cost of Jesus's sacrifice on the cross and are thankful for the new life we can now live in. We pray all these things in Your wonderful name. Amen.