

Gospel Community

Introduction

Scripture

John 15:10-13 ¹⁰ "If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love; just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. ¹¹ "These things I have spoken to you so that My joy may be in you, and that your joy may be made full. ¹² "This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. ¹³ "Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends. (NAS)

Main Idea

The purpose of this first gathering is to introduce the semester's topic of study, lay some basic ground rules for the community group, and probably most importantly – have fun getting to know one another!

Starters

- What do you hope to get from being a part of this community group? —OR—
- What do you hope we, as a community group, can be for each other?

Discussion

I. Group Ground-rules

II. Introduction to the Study

Community

Q1: What is community?

Q2: When have you experienced what you consider to be true community?

Q3: What obstacles do we face in our culture in building and being a community?

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Q4: According to the passage, how can we experience the joy of abiding in Jesus' love?

Q5: How does this passage demonstrate the uniqueness/importance of community that is based on the gospel?

Prayer

As you look ahead to the fall, what is one area of your life where you would like to experience more of the joy and love of Jesus? After sharing, pray. And remember to ask that God would use this community to help make his joy and love known in that particular area.