



FRESH FAITH

## DIFFERENT, BUT TOGETHER

OCTOBER 21, 2018

### SERMON STUDY

Dive deeper into this week's message and passage from the Bible. Here are some questions to help you guide your group discussion.

Read Ephesians 3:6-7

**Having fresh faith requires embracing differences. Following Jesus gives us the ability to love and embrace those who are different from us.**

- How does it feel for you to love someone who is in a different age range, different skin color, different socioeconomic level, or different belief system than you? It is uncomfortable for you to show love to someone who is different from you, or is it easy? Share why or why not.
- Would you say your faith is fresh or has it grown stale when it comes to this area?

**God's plan was always to bring different people together through Jesus, and his love does not discriminate.**

- Same breeds bias. Different breeds empathy. In your own life, how have you surrounded yourself with people who are the same or different from you? What has been the result?
- In what ways could you pursue different, proactively surrounding yourself with even more people who are different from you? How could you create opportunities to see the image of God in all people, not just in yourself?

Read Ephesians 3:20-21 and John 13:34-35.

**When you love someone who is different from you, you are putting his love on display for all to see.**

- If you want to find yourself smack dab in the middle of God's place, you need to pursue serving and learning from others who are different from you. No matter how small or big, what sacrifices could you make to love someone this week who is different than you are?
- How can Jesus be the source of your strength in showing love, generosity, and kindness?

### REFLECT

What is God saying to you through his word? What are you going to do about it, and when?

### DAILY BIBLE READING

Here's an overview of what we're being challenged with this week in Daily Bible Reading:

Day one: Ephesians 3:6-7 | This is God's plan.

Day two: Ephesians 3:14-15 | Creator of everything, on heaven and on earth.

Day three: Ephesians 3:16-19 | How wide, how long, how high, and how deep.

Day four: Hebrews 4:15-16 | Jesus is entirely different from us.

Day five: Ephesians 3:20-21 | Love one another.