

WEEK 7

BETTER TOGETHER

Chapters 12-13 | A Reconciled Body + Unity Creates Capacity

BIG IDEA

Biblical unity is not sameness. Jesus reconciles different people into one body, and when we bring our different gifts, strength, and support together, our capacity increases. We can carry more together than we can alone.

BEFORE GROUP

- [] Read Chapter 12: A Reconciled Body
- [] Read Chapter 13: Unity Creates Capacity
- [] Complete the Reflection Questions at the end of both chapters
- [] Review the Chapter 12 and Chapter 13 Discussion Guides in the back of the book

THIS WEEK, PAY ATTENTION TO...

The walls that keep people separated, the gifts God has placed in other people, and the places where collaboration could increase what you are able to carry.

KEY TRUTH

UNITY CREATES CAPACITY. Different people. Different gifts. One Jesus. Mission moves farther when we stop carrying alone.

READ TOGETHER

EPHESIANS 2:14-18

As you read, notice what Jesus does with the walls that divide people. He does not erase our differences. He reconciles us to God and to one another, creating one new people in Him.

LUKE 5:4-7

The catch became too much for one boat, so they signaled their partners for help. The answer was not to abandon the catch. It was to bring another boat alongside.

WHAT STAYED WITH ME?

What stood out most from Chapters 12 and 13?

WHAT IS GOD SHOWING ME?

What did you recognize about unity, difference, collaboration, or your need for other people?

FROM OUR CONVERSATION

Write down something someone shared that challenged, encouraged, or helped you.

A QUESTION I WANT TO KEEP THINKING ABOUT

REMEMBER

Unity is not sameness. The body of Christ is strengthened by different people bringing different gifts around one Jesus. Difference does not have to become division, and needing another boat is not weakness.

THIS WEEK'S PRACTICE

CROSS A LINE + SIGNAL ANOTHER BOAT

Unity becomes visible when we move toward people and make room for the strength God has placed in them.

1. CROSS A LINE

Reach across one unnecessary relational line this week. It may be a difference in culture, generation, church background, personality, tradition, or experience. Take a step to understand, pray for, encourage, serve, or build with someone.

2. SIGNAL ANOTHER BOAT

Identify one thing you have been trying to carry alone. Ask for help, invite collaboration, or honor the gift someone else can bring. And when someone else signals you, be willing to respond.

MY STEP THIS WEEK

The person or line I want to intentionally cross:

The area where I need to signal another boat:

PRAY TOGETHER

Ask God to tear down unnecessary walls, deepen your love for the whole body of Christ, help you honor the gifts in others, and give you humility to ask for help before the net breaks.

WHAT CAN MY GROUP PRAY WITH ME ABOUT?

WHO CAN I PRAY FOR THIS WEEK?

BEFORE WEEK 8

Read Chapters 14-15: The Circle Has to Keep Expanding + You Were Never Meant to Do This Alone. Complete the Reflection Questions and review the corresponding Discussion Guides. Healthy community does not become a closed circle. What God builds in us together is meant to make room for others.

DIFFERENT PEOPLE. DIFFERENT GIFTS. ONE JESUS.