

ALL-CHURCH STUDY GUIDE

November 7, 2021

Week 5: I am Different ... because I Imitate Christ

PRAY

Ask for ears to hear, eyes to see, and a heart open to the truths that God will speak to you through your time together today.

ICEBREAKER

(Catch-up Time)

How do you normally handle it when you hit a hard or confusing passage or verse in the Bible?

READ

Ephesians 5:21-33 (NIV)

WATCH

Press play on the video for week 5 now. (You will be prompted once to pause the video and discuss some questions!)

DISCUSSION

Pause & Discuss

1. The last part of the quote that was read in the video said, "Jesus not only died a cross-death, He lived a cross-life of submission and service." What are some ways that Jesus lived a "cross-life" and submitted himself to others?
2. In what ways is verse 21 counter-cultural even today?

Resume the video

FINAL DISCUSSION

3. As you think about what it means to imitate Christ, what would you say seems like the hardest thing that we're asked to do?
4. Why do we sometimes forget that we are not supposed to do all of this on our own power? How do we help ourselves to remember to depend on the Holy Spirit for help?

PRAYER TIME

Pray for any personal requests, and pray for our church and every community (life and support groups, serving teams, affinity ministries, etc.) within it, that we would be intentional about practicing the ways of Jesus with one another so that we can live them out outside the church.

ACTION STEP

Practicing verse 21 is referred to as "mutual submission." As you think deeply about different areas of your life (marriage or dating relationship, friendships, job, family, church, etc), do you see that you mostly submit to others, or that others mostly submit to you? Prayerfully reflect on what would it look like for there to be mutual submission in areas where that is presently out of balance. Look for an opportunity to practice mutual submission this week.