

EMMAUSWii

week one • january 5

INTRO

This winter we will be looking at life's relationships... particularly our relationships with each other right here in the middle school group... we will be talking about what community is and how it is a gift from God and how to unwrap this gift and make it part of our lives.

GETTING STARTED

This week we will start off by getting a basic understanding of what community is....

•SCRIPTURE

One Another Passages

Romans 12

¹⁰Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves.

¹⁶Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

Romans 15

¹We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. ²Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. ³For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: "The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me." ⁴For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

⁵May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, ⁶so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God.

Ephesians 4

³¹Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³²Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

1 Thessalonians 5:11

¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

Hebrews 10

²⁵Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

1 Peter 3

⁸Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble.

1 John 3

¹¹This is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another.

²³And this is his command: to believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and to love one another as he commanded us.

1 John 4

⁷Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

¹¹Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

¹²No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is made complete in us.

Other Verses

Philippians 2

¹If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ²then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. ³Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. ⁴Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.

⁵Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

⁶Who, being in very nature God,

did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,

⁷but made himself nothing,

taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

•DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Quickly run through the “one another” verses. What does it mean to be part of “one another?”
2. What gets in the way of “one another-ness?”
3. What does the word “fellowship” mean to you? What does the word “community” mean to you? Do these two words mean the same thing?
4. The word Fellowship literally means “joint participation in a common life with God and fellow Christians.” If we are in fellowship with one another in our middle school group, what does this definition tell you about how we should view each other?
4. What is the hardest part, for you, of being part of a community?
5. Lookup Phil. 2:1-7. What does this verse say about fellowship and community?
6. How can we be “one in Spirit” when we are all so different?

7. What is one thing that YOU do to contribute to our community?