

BEST SUMMER EVER



WEEK 2 | LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

CONNECT

- What has been your favorite family vacation (as a kid or an adult)? Share a story.

CONSIDER

- What encouraged or challenged you from the sermon and/or daily devotions this week?

CHRIST

Read John 15:9-17 as a group.

- The disciples' relationship with Jesus was modeled on Jesus' relationship with His Father. That influence can be seen all throughout Jesus' time with His disciples. **Who has influenced and encouraged your relationship with God? How?**

Right now, whose relationship with God are you influencing and encouraging?

- In v. 10, Jesus shows us that the way to remaining in His love is through obedience. **What is the difference between obedience to earn love and obedience as a response to love? How does obedience lead to joy (v.11)?**
- After talking about obedience, Jesus gives a command to love others (v.12). He then foreshadows His authority and example behind the ask of this command (v.13). **Do you find it easier to deepen your relationship with God or to deepen your relationships with people? Why?**
- Being called a servant of God was a great honor. But Jesus was not calling his disciples to just follow Him from afar with no rights to enter in His presence. He was inviting them into the relationship and intimacy of friendship. **What do you enjoy about being called a friend of Jesus? What do you struggle to accept about being a friend of Jesus?**

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Take a moment and read the following passages as group: Proverbs 15:22; 18:24; 27:9, 17, Ecclesiastes 4:9-12, Matthew 18:20, Galatians 6:2, Hebrews 10:24-25, & 1 Peter 4:8-10.

- Jesus chose to love and befriend us, and He calls us to do the same with those around us. Relationships have an unbelievable impact on our lives, and they are the primary way we live out Jesus' command to love others (v. 17). **What do you learn about friendship/relationships from the above passages? What are the potential negatives of avoiding relationships? What are the potential positives of relationships? Write down all of your group's answers.**

Of these verses, which one resonates with you? Why? What are some ways God might want to shape and change you through your relationships?

- We often spend a lot of time planning out our summer rhythms. This season could be one to deepen some friendships/relationships in your life. **How are you making time and space to develop friendships? What can you do this summer to become a better friend and/or deepen the relationships around you?**
- **As a group, how can we live as better friends and/or deepen our relationships with each other this summer (social gathering, serve projects, deeper discussions, etc...)?** Together make a plan to intentionally invest into your relationships as a group.

CALLING

- A simple way to begin living out the command to love others begins with the question, "who needs my help and what could I do to help them?" This could lead to an encouraging note, an invitation to coffee, or showing up to help/serve. This week, ponder this question.
- To continue having the The Best Summer Ever, check out these suggested resources at mynorthside.com/bestsummerever.
- **Daily Devotions:** Spend 15 minutes each day with Northside devotions. Text JOINGOD to 81411 or use the Study tab in Northside's App for Daily Devotions.
- **Memorize:** *"I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you."* John 15:15
- **Further Study:** Add *Love Does* or *Everybody Always* by Bob Goff to your summer reading list. Both will inspire you to live out the love of Jesus in your sphere of influence.