

REDISCOVER JESUS. CHURCH. OUR JOURNEY

“The Essentials to Finding Your Way”

Lesson 4 **The Power of Belonging**

♥ **Group Opener:** *(Choose a question for your life group to discuss.)*

1. Describe your best memories of being a part of ‘church’ in your home country? What did you love about your experience in your church?
2. What are some of the things that cause people to turn away from the church community?
3. Why is it important for a person to be meaningfully connected in a community like the church?

♪ **Worship and Waiting on God:**

Have someone in your group prepare to lead in worship. Before worship begins pray over the leader and invite the Holy Spirit to use them.

✍ **Group Facilitator** – *It is not necessary to use all the questions. Select ones that will stimulate the most response from your small group.*

LEADER: You can ask the following questions as an assessment of your own Life Group, and how well you are doing in building Christian Community. Some of these questions will be hard for some people to answer, but if you are going to be part of a true community, honesty is very important. Encourage people to share and be honest.

The pastor talked about 4 aspects of community. Let’s talk about how we are living this out in our own Life Group:

Knowing & Being Known:

- How have you come to know God more by being a part of this group?
- What is the hardest thing about telling others about how you really feel or think?
- What is it about this group that makes you feel like someone really knows your needs? What would make people more comfortable sharing about themselves?

Loving & Being Loved:

- Describe some practical ways others in the group have shown love to you

- How can we show love to each other? (this might be a good place to talk about whether your life group experience goes deeper than just studying together)

Serving & Being Served:

- Remember the reference to “Dead Sea” people? What happens in a Christian’s life if they keep taking in through sermons and Bible Studies, but they never serve?
- Describe a time when you served another person or lifted their burden. What did that do for them? What did it do for you?

Celebrating & Being Celebrated:

- How does celebrating another person build the church community?
- What happens in your life when someone tears you down?
- How do these Scriptures relate to celebrating others:
 - Eph 4:29 (think first, and then speak!)
 - Phil 4:8 (the connection between what we THINK about people and what comes out of our mouths)

✓ Selah (Stop and Think about it): *(Take the time to make personal application of this section. Have each member share with the group.)*

- What is ONE thing that if we did this in our group or in our church, we would build a stronger community that honors the Lord?
- What will I personally commit to doing differently?