



Vision Weekend

Opening Prayer

God, thank you for the time to pause and celebrate together as a church reflecting on all that you have invited us into through ministry within our community. Be with us as we reflect on how we can be more WITH each other today. Amen.

Talk It Over

This week we celebrated Vision Weekend. We paused to look back at all the things God has accomplished through us and we spent time looking forward to what we are being invited into this year. Pausing to celebrate and regroup is not something our busy culture often does. As a church community, we value making space for those reflections.

- Do you have a regular pattern of pausing to regroup or celebrate wins?
- Share a fun or memorable time you paused to celebrate.

Read Psalm 9:1 (ESV)

Reflecting on the ways God's hand has been on our lives, during both difficult seasons and times of joy, creates a heart posture of gratitude.

- What is something that stands out to you in your life from 2019?
- Was there a specific stat or story from Vision Weekend that stood out to you? What made that area of ministry stand out to you?
- Do either of your last two answers spark gratitude in you?

Read Revelation 3:20 (NTE)

Transitioning to what's ahead in 2020 we looked at our new word for this year: WITH. As a church we want to be WITH God, WITH each other, and WITH everyone. When we are with God it changes us. We are not operating in our own strength, wisdom, and abilities. We have God with us; God in us. We have his spirit, strength, and wisdom. Let's take a closer look at the ways we want to practice being WITH.

WITH GOD

We want to be more connected to God's spirit, more centered on his Word, and more invested in his mission. One of the ways we are doing this is by using the Bible in One Year App collectively.

- Share your own habits and ways of being with God.
- If you have joined us in using the Bible In One Year app, tell us how your experience has been.
- What is your favorite way to be WITH God?

WITH Each Other

In the New Testament, there are 59 "one another" statements directed at the church. These statements are things we are encouraged to do for one another — love one another, support one another, pray for one

another, carry one another's burdens, encourage one another, forgive one another, bless one another... to name a few.

- What has been your experience with praying for someone else?
- Does care-taking come naturally for you? If not, what are some things you do to help you remember to reach out to those around you and check-in?
- What is your favorite way to be WITH each other?

WITH Everyone

The church was never meant to be a *holy huddle* that just stays in its building. We are instead designed to be everyday missionaries out in our everyday lives — where we live, work and play.

- Have you been a part of Iheart Serve Weekend? Share your experience.
- Have you found that you show up differently in your home, at your work, and with your friends when you have spent time learning about and entering into life with God? If so, explain how this works for you.
- What is your favorite way of being WITH everyone or with those who you work, live, and play with?

Reread our verse of the year: Revelation 3:20 (NTE)

Take a minute to reflect on where you are at with Jesus in your life right now. Is he at the center of your life? Have you opened the door to welcome him into all that you do? Pause and reflect on these questions quietly before you share the responses to the questions below.

- Do you feel confident about where you are at spiritually today? In what ways would you like to change or grow? In what areas do you feel at peace with your relationship with God?
- Do you see practical ways Jesus is a part of your everyday life? Share one.
- What is it like to be pursued by God through your troubles, triumphs, and tragedies? How does this play out in your life?

Closing Prayer

God, thank you for challenging us to put you at the center of our lives. Help us to be with you more, with each other more, and to be with everyone we come in contact with. We surrender our lives to you. Amen.

How To Use this Discussion Guide

The guide is meant to serve you and your group as you intentionally create space to grow in friendship and faith. Use the guide as a tool to help your unique group.

With that in mind, consider reviewing the guide before your group to see if some content or questions might resonate more or less with your group. Don't feel pressured to read all the content or to hit all the questions. The guide is not meant to be something you power through for the sake of completing. Pick the content from the guide you feel will help foster friendship and faith in your specific group.

In addition, spend some time praying for your group each week, preparing your heart, and asking God for wisdom and guidance as you lead.