

Bible Class Discussion Guide

Following the Way – Week 7

Life Together (Acts 2:42-47, Acts 4:32-33; Hebrews 10:23-25)

Icebreaker Question

What's one experience—church-related or not—where you felt truly connected to others?

Scripture Reading Prompt

This week we're focusing on how the early church didn't just believe in Jesus individually—they followed Him in community. They met daily, shared their lives, and were unified across lines that typically divided. What does life together look like in a world moving faster and becoming more fragmented?

1. Life Together is Devoted and Daily

Read Acts 2:46

- What does “every day” suggest about how the early church practiced community?
 - What makes regular, intentional time with others difficult in our culture?
 - Robin said that spiritual formation and deep community require margin—and margin requires intention. What does it look like to create that kind of margin in the Northern Virginia pace of life?
 - What changes might help you create margin for deeper connection with others?
-

2. Life Together is Formed by Deep Unity

Read Acts 4:32-33

- How does Luke describe the unity of the early believers?
 - What's the difference between friendliness and true unity?
 - What challenges our unity today—within the church or in our culture?
 - Scot McKnight compared the church to a salad bowl, not a smoothie. What do you think that means?
 - What helps you stay committed to community when differences arise?
-

3. Life Together is How We Endure

Read Hebrews 10:23-25

- What encouragement does this passage offer for people feeling discouraged or spiritually stuck?
- What does it mean to “spur one another on”?
- How can community help us carry burdens when we are discouraged by cultural, political, or church-related issues?
- When have others helped you “hold on to hope” in a difficult season?

Optional Follow-Up: Reflecting on the Plague of Cyprian

Robin mentioned the early church's response during the Plague of Cyprian in the third century—how Christians stayed to care for the sick while others fled. Their courageous love, even for enemies, became a powerful witness to the world around them.

Discussion Questions:

- What does this example teach us about the power of staying when others scatter?
 - How might “life together” be a witness in our world today?
-

Reflection and Application

- Which aspect of community is hardest for you right now: time, unity, or endurance?
- What's one step you could take this week to move toward deeper connection?
- How can our church reflect Jesus through our shared life?

Optional Study – John 13:34–35

Jesus at the Center – How does Jesus define what community should look like?

Context is Key – What makes this command so powerful in the setting of the Last Supper?

Read with the Church – How might this passage challenge us as a community?

Read for Formation – What's one way God may be inviting you to love more deeply?