



Christ the Vine | Small Group Bible Studies – 2020

LEARN | GROW | CONNECT

May 31st, 2020 - #9

Let me remind you of these 4 truths:

We gather together around God's Word *to hear from God.*

We gather together around God's Word *to bring honor to God.*

We gather together around God's Word *because we need to be encouraged.*

We gather together around God's Word *because they need to hear our encouragement.*

This will be our last full congregation small group effort. After this lesson, we will strive to reorganize our small group Bible studies for those that have found this beneficial and would like to continue.

Thank you all for your diligence, your prayers, your love, and your encouragement. I pray that God bless us all as we begin again our in-person worship! I look forward to seeing you all again in person!

2 Corinthians 13:11-14

Finally, brothers and sisters, rejoice! Strive for full restoration, encourage one another, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you.

¹² Greet one another with a holy kiss. ¹³ All God's people here send their greetings.

¹⁴ May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.



7 Minute Bible Study

Everyone can start at this section of the Bible study. If you have only 7 minutes with your group this week. That's fine. The important thing is to connect with each other and help each other stay connected to Christ.

1. How are you doing?
2. Paul refers to them as his family. Why is that important for us to remember as we begin the process of coming back to church?
3. We definitely won't be greeting each other with a holy kiss this Sunday. But how can that spirit be seen when we gather in person for worship?
4. What truths of the Trinity do you see in verse 14?

30 Minute Bible Study

If you have time, soldier on!

5. Apply the following phrases to our present circumstances with church and worship:
 - i. "Strive for full restoration"
 - ii. Encourage one another
 - iii. Be of one mind
 - iv. Live in peace
6. Let's say that the guidelines for social distancing are in place for another year. Brainstorm a few fellowship ideas that could be utilized at church if we can't "Greet one another with a holy kiss."
7. The last verse is sometimes called "the apostolic blessing." The word "may" isn't in the Greek, nor is the word "be." It's a statement of reality. Why are you glad to know that?

Closing Prayer

Lord God, bless our church family as we remember the unity of faith. Keep us safe and healthy as we resume in person worship. Tie us close together during these days of hardship that we might truly be a family of believers. Amen.

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?" - Ps 27:1



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