

LAST Week of Small Group Fall Session: November 16

Small Group Questions — Week of November 2, 2026

Series: *It's in the Name, Part 4 — A Community that is Inclusive*

Scripture Focus: *1 Corinthians 11:17–34; Luke 22:7–24; Luke 15:22–32*

1. Looking Ahead as a Group

There are just a few weeks left in this small group session — it's time to begin discussing the *future* of your group.

Please take time this week to talk through the following:

- **Fun Event:** Plan at least one fun connection time during the break! Think of something that would be easy to invite friends or neighbors to who could benefit from Christian community.
Ideas: Pickleball, beach day, Friendsgiving, Christmas party, family BBQ, game night (bunco, dominoes, etc.).
- **Winter Session Plans:**
 - Is your group planning to meet again this winter?
 - What will your format be (sermon-based, book study, etc.)?
 - What day/time will you meet?
 - Will there be room in your group for new people in the next session?
- **Future Leadership:**
 - Is there anyone in your group who could lead a group in the future?
 - If not yet, is there someone who could *apprentice* during the winter session toward future leadership?

2. Reflecting on Inclusion

This week's sermon focused on being a community that is radically inclusive.

- Can you describe a time when you felt uniquely *included* or *excluded*?
- How did those experiences shape your view of belonging and community?

3. The Paradox of Christianity

Christianity is sometimes seen as both *extremely exclusive* and *extremely inclusive*.

- Do you think both can be true?

- Why is this tension important for us to understand as followers of Jesus?

4. Division at the Table — 1 Corinthians 11:17–22

Read the passage together.

- How does Paul feel about what's happening in Corinth?
- What seems to bother him the most about the way they are practicing Communion?

5. The Meaning of Communion — 1 Corinthians 11:23–26

Read the passage carefully.

- According to Paul, what is Communion *meant to be*?
- What is it supposed to *do* in the life of the believer and the community?

6. Communion in the Gospels — Luke 22:7–24

- What stands out to you about Communion in this passage?
- In what ways do the disciples misunderstand what's happening at the table?

7. The Prodigal Feast — Luke 15:22–32

- What was the feast celebrating?
- Who comes in and who stays out?
- Why is that significant for understanding inclusion at God's table?

8. Examining Ourselves — 1 Corinthians 11:27–34

- What does Paul tell us to examine before taking Communion?
- How can we prepare our hearts to come to the table in a worthy manner?

9. The Inclusive and Exclusive Nature of Communion

- In what ways is the Lord's Table *radically exclusive*?
- In what ways is it *radically inclusive*?
(*Hint: exclusive because it's only for those who trust in Christ; inclusive because all who trust are welcomed equally.*)

10. The Older and Younger Brother Lens

Using the parable of the Prodigal Son:

- Do you relate more to the *older brother* who guards who “deserves” to be included, or the *younger brother* whose repentance opens the way back to the table?
- How might God be inviting you to grow from that posture?

11. Praying for Others

Spend a few minutes thinking about people in your circle who might need:

- Comfort,
- Community, or
- Christ.

Take time as a group to pray for these individuals — that God would open doors for invitation and belonging.