

FIRST CORINTHIANS

Haircuts and Head-Coverings Week 18 (11:2-16)

1. Catch Up On Life:

This is when we update each other on the day-in and day-out happenings of our lives. As church family, we care about each other's lives: what we're celebrating, what we're mourning, what decisions we are praying through, and everything in between. (1 Thessalonians 2:8, Romans 12:10 and 15)

- Celebrate the wins - where have you seen Jesus working in the last week (shaping you to be more like Himself or working in the lives of those that He's put around you)?
- What (if any) big life updates do you need to catch us up on (positive or negative)?

Pray: Take every opportunity to pray and thank God for the good He's doing in our lives, and ask for help and healing anywhere there is pain.

2. Review the Mission:

Just like God the Father sent Jesus on a mission of reconciliation for us, Jesus sends us out as ambassadors of His reconciliation. We are called to make disciples wherever we go. (John 20:21 and 2 Corinthians 5:18-20)

People:

- Reactive - Who in your life (family, coworkers, etc.) can we join you in praying for? Who has God put around you that is showing spiritual interest? Who is hurting and could use some love from our group?
- Proactive - Who are the people we are intentionally living on mission with (neighbors, STC partner organizations, or a specific demographic in Columbia)? What are our upcoming plans to love, serve, and build relationships with this group?

Plan:

- Are there any rhythms already planned, or an extra rhythm we could plan to create a way for these friends to connect with our group?

Pray: Prayer is the fuel of God's mission. Let's pray for our people by name; pray for their needs, and opportunities to have spiritual conversations that help them take next steps toward Jesus.

3. Sermon Discussion:

God uses His Word to reveal Himself to us, to equip us to live the good life He's designed for us, to show us our sin, and to strengthen us as we follow Him. We preach the Word on Sundays and apply it as a LifeGroup throughout the week. (2 Timothy 3:16-17, Colossians 1:9-12 and James 1:22-25)

Primary Passage: 1 Corinthians 11:2-16

Related Passage: Romans 11:33-36

Read and Recap: Have someone read **1 Corinthians 11:2-16** and recap the highlights from this week's sermon. What stood out to you from the scripture or sermon? Why?

- When it comes to cultural standards of masculinity, where has it seemed like we've gone wrong? Where do you see sin clearly distorting what it means to be masculine in our culture? Where have you seen or experienced redeemed masculinity?
- What about when it comes to femininity? Where has culture seemed to understand or shift our understanding of femininity toward ways that seem unbiblical? Where have you seen or experienced redeemed femininity?
- What is your general posture toward authority? (In regards to God's authority over all, authority that God has given to elders and pastors in the church, and the authority that God has given husbands over their families?) Where have you seen or experienced redeemed authority?

- In our LifeGroup, how can we work toward redeemed and biblical understandings of masculinity, femininity, and authority? How can our church family do this together?

Pray that we would be challenged to trust the authority that God has over our lives. Pray that the Holy Spirit would convict us to repent of any ways that we act against God's design for masculinity, femininity, and authority. Pray that our church family would begin to grow in exhibiting redeemed masculinity, femininity and authority that leads to flourishing within our community.

4. Engage the Heart:

Jesus calls us to walk in the light, confessing our sins to God and each other. God's Spirit works through confession and community to lead us to repentance. (Romans 3:23-24, James 5:16 and 1 John 1:5-10)

- What are you struggling to trust God with this week? How can you give God control of it?
- What are you doing that you shouldn't be doing? What are you not doing that you should be doing?
- What steps of repentance do you need to take? How can we help you walk in repentance?

Pray: James tells us that a community that regularly confesses sin and prays for each other will see a lot of healing. Confess your sins in prayer and pray for each other.