

NS LIFE GROUPS

Ekklesia- Week 3

Various Texts

July 28, 2019

Main Idea: What the Church Does—Five MORE Qualities of a Real Church (in addition to last week's five)

Icebreaker: What has been the most enjoyable thing that you have done this summer?

Study:

Ekklesia is a Greek word meaning “called out ones.” It is the Greek word that the New Testament uses for “church.” Last week, we looked at Five Biblical Characteristics of a Real Church. Today, we will look at five more of these characteristics.

Real Churches...

- 1. Are United and Supportive. (Romans 16:3-5; 16-18)**
 - Why is unity and support so important within the body of Christ?
 - What does it look like for people to actively pursue unity in their church?
 - What does it look like for people to cause disunity and dissent within a church?
- 2. Live in Authentic Community. (1 Corinthians 12:25-27)**
 - What does it look like for us to suffer when a brother or sister in Christ suffers?
 - What does it look like for us to rejoice when a brother or sister in Christ is honored?
 - In what way do these responses honor God and bring him glory?
- 3. Builds Up. (1 Corinthians 14:12, 26)**
 - How has God gifted you to serve others in building up his church?
- 4. Reveal the Wisdom of God. (Ephesians 3:1-11)**
 - What is the wisdom of God that the church reveals to the world? (*Salvation through faith in Jesus!*)
- 5. Glorify God. (Ephesians 3:20-21)**
 - How can we be sure to bring God glory through our church rather than gaining glory for ourselves?

Application:

- 1. How does your thinking need to change, or what step of obedience do you need to take after this lesson?**
- 2. What NEXT STEP do you need to take at Northstar in response to this lesson?**
- 3. What do we need to commit to praying for Northstar based on today's discussion?**

Close your group time with prayer for each other's prayer requests and with some intentional time of praying for Northstar to be a church that clearly embodies all of the elements that we discussed today.