

# EPHESIANS 4:7-16

## Life Groups Discussion Guide

As the discussion leader, there are several things to keep in mind for your Life Group.

- Pray that the Lord would prepare the hearts of your group members for the discussion prior to their arrival.
- Review your notes from the Sunday sermon and familiarize yourself with the discussion questions prior to your group meeting.
- Encourage your group members to open up. People will challenge and strengthen each other when they are truly open and conversation remains confidential.

### Text:

<sup>7</sup>But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup>Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men." <sup>9</sup>(In saying, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? <sup>10</sup>He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup>And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup>until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>14</sup>so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. <sup>15</sup>Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup>from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. (Ephesians 4:7-16, ESV)

### Discussion Questions:

1. What do you think your life would be like if all of a sudden you lost the ability to use a body part (e.g. ear, arm, foot, etc.)?
2. What roles do you feel you play in the body of Christ?
3. How do you feel God has gifted you? Do you use those gifts to the best of your ability? Explain.
4. How have you seen God use your gifts in the past to make an impact on others?
5. In what ministry could you get involved at JRA (if you are not currently involved in one)? Is there more you would like to do at JRA?

### Prayer Focus:

Pray that God would help group members more effectively use their gifts to advance the church.

**Additional Scripture References:** Ps. 68:18; Luke 16:22-23; Rom. 12:6-8; 1 Cor. 12:8-10; Eph 2:10; 4:1; 1 Pet. 3:18-20; 4:10-11; Rev. 20