

## SESSION 6 | GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

### GET STARTED

We are not just a part of the Church, we are also a part of families and friend groups. Photos tell stories. They remind us of moments, our history, and identity. This week, share a photo showing different generations of your family and a story that goes along with it.

Have you ever built something (furniture, remodel, car, computer, etc.)? If so, share a story about how the project went.

### TAKE IT IN

Watch Session 6: WE the CHURCH at [mynorthside.com/WE](http://mynorthside.com/WE). What encouraged or challenged you from the video and daily study guide this week?

### TALK IT OVER

#### Read Matthew 16:13-20

- Jesus asks a powerful question: “Who do the people say that I am?” With our current culture in mind, how do you think people would answer this question today? How do you think they would answer about the Church?
- Peter is the first to fully declare who Jesus is and, therefore, becomes the first member of the Church. Jesus tells Peter that he is the first stone towards building the Church. Everyone who comes after Peter is another stone added building up the Church. Take a moment to read Acts 4:8-13, 1 Corinthians 3:5-11, Ephesians 2:19-22, 1 Peter 2:4-5. What do you learn about how God is building the Church?
- This moment of being the first set Peter apart, and Jesus gave him future leadership in the Church (v.19). Peter would lead the way in preaching the Gospel to both Jews (Acts 2) and Gentiles (Acts 10). He would help serve, guide, and build up the early Church. While we don’t have the same role as Peter, we do have the same responsibility to build up the Church. Do you find yourself being more of a consumer of or a contributor (builder) to your local church? What are some intentional ways you can help build up your church?
- This is the first time we see the word *ekklesia* translated as church in the New Testament (v.18). Reflect back over the WE study; how has your definition of church changed or deepened? Why do you think so many followers of Jesus settle for a concept of church that is nothing more than a weekly concert with a lecture?

- Since the Church is a WE, everything we are called to do as believers involves at least one other person. WE cannot be the Church without people. Take a moment to look over We Are The Church | One Anothering (pg. 127). Which of these “one another” verses have you experienced through our group, your church, or the Church? How can you better live out these “one another” verses? Which do you hope to build up in this group or your church?

### Read Revelation 7:9-10; 21:1-7

- The Church is eternal, because we will be together in Heaven. The Church is diverse with every nation, tribe, people, and language. The Church is not perfect. Revelation reveals that one day the Church will be made whole. Until that time, the Church (local and global) will struggle. When do you feel like giving up when it comes to following Jesus? What encouragement do you find in these passages to help you keep following Jesus?
- Part of being the Church is bringing a little bit of Heaven into the present. When this happens, people get to experience who God is and what the Church is supposed to be. Most importantly, it sets the stage for people to start or deepen a relationship with Jesus. Our group is a microcosm of who WE are as the Church. Moving forward, what are some practical ways our group can be intentional about being the Church? Together, list some ideas, and then select one or two to pursue in the next season.

### LIVE IT OUT

On your own, reflect back over We Are The Church | One Anothering (pg. 127). These don't just apply to the Church, they also shape the culture of your home. Read through the list with your home in mind. For example, “In my home we will accept one another, or in my home we will build one another up.” With this shift, how do these phrases impact your home? What is your plan to be more intentional about one-anothering in both your home and local church.

Daily Study Guide: Take 30 minutes each day to complete the daily study guide. Don't think of it as homework, but relational time growing alongside your Heavenly Father. Come ready to discuss what you are learning at the next group session.

Memorize: “When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few.” Matthew 9:36-37