

## Why Church?

### Week 1: Because Jesus Loves the Church

1. What first drew you to church? Did you start going as a kid or later in life? Have you ever felt distant from church? Why?
2. Read Jesus' prayer in John 17:20-25. Who is Jesus praying for? What does he want for this group?
3. Read Ephesians 5:25-27. What is Jesus' relationship with the church?
4. Paul uses three primary metaphors to describe the church in his letter to the Ephesians. (See Ephesians 2:13-22) He talks about the church as God's family, God's Temple, and Christ's body. What do these descriptions have in common? Which one do you find most compelling? What questions do you have?
5. Many people in our community say something like, "I'm good with Jesus, but I have a problem with the church." Have you ever felt this way? How would you respond to someone who says something like this?
6. What step of love for the church will you take this week?