

SESSION 4 | GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

GET STARTED

We are not just a part of the Church, we are also a part of families and friend groups. Plus, we are all different with unique family/friend cultures and traditions! This week, share unique family/friend photos (traditions, silly faces, etc.) and a story that goes along with it.

What is your favorite family tradition that is very different from other families? If your family looks more like a group of friends, what is your favorite tradition with them?

TAKE IT IN

Watch Session 4: WE are DIFFERENT at mynorthside.com/WE. What encouraged or challenged you from the video and daily study guide this week?

TALK IT OVER

Read 1 Peter 2:4-12

- There is a lot of beautiful, descriptive language being used in these verses about God's family. What does it mean to you to be called a "chosen people" and a "royal priesthood"? How does this identity shape your daily life and interactions with others?
- Verse 9 talks about light and darkness, God being the light and sin being the darkness. How can we be a reflection of God's light in our neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces? What practical steps can we take to shine light in a world that often feels dark?
- Verse 5 says that believers are "living stones" being built into a spiritual house. How does this metaphor illustrate our role as a church community? What does it mean to you to be part of this "spiritual house"?
- Our sinful desires can wage war against our soul (v.11). We often don't think enough about how deeply our sinful nature can affect us. Where are you experiencing weariness from a war being waged against your soul? How can our group support each other as we follow Jesus? If needed, take time to pray right now for each other.

Read Matthew 5:13-16

- Being set apart means we should be standing out. Just like how salt makes things taste better, we should be helping things to be better. What do you think it means to be "the salt of the earth"? How can we apply this concept in our daily lives?

- Salt is so distinct that it can only be described by itself, salty. Thinking about how followers of Jesus are called to be salt of the earth, what would happen if we lost that distinct flavor of our faith? How might it affect those around us? What practical steps can we take to avoid losing this saltiness?

Read Acts 5:12-16

- These verses are pointing out how different the Apostles were because they followed Jesus. Verse 13 mentions that “*no one else dared join them, even though they were highly regarded.*” What do you think this says about the early church’s reputation?
- These verses highlight that it is good to have a life that looks different. This distinction actually helped others believe in Jesus and their numbers to grow (v.14). What are some ways you think God is calling you to help grow His Kingdom by living differently?
- Being different in the Name of Jesus can appear in many ways throughout our lives. Share a story about a time you chose to be different in the Name of Jesus or a moment where you should have been different but fell short. What did God teach you through this moment?

LIVE IT OUT

This week, take a look at your life. How are you living right now? If you’re a follower of Jesus, where do you need to grow in how you live? If you’re not a follower of Jesus, what do you admire about the way those who do believe live their lives? This week, ask God to change one thing about your life that could help point others to Jesus.

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: “*But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God’s special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*” 1 Peter 2:9