

describes Jesus's teaching.

3. During week 2 of this study we learned that 1 John 4:19-21 refocuses us on caring for one another. But there's more to this passage. This time, let's look at it from the vantage point of living on mission.
 - What does this passage teach us about living on mission? What is challenging or encouraging about this?
4. A vibrant community that cares and enjoys one another is primed to live on mission. Let's go back again to Acts 2:42-47. This passage demonstrates what everyday, intentional living on mission can be like.
 - What did this group of people commit themselves to do?
 - How did this group of people grow?
 - What were the impacts of their everyday actions?
 - How can you apply this to your group's community and mission?

WITH PRACTICE:

Some of Jesus's last words to his people were, "Go and make disciples of all nations." (Matthew 28:18-20). The word "go" can easily be dismissed to be a suggestion for only a few specifically called ones to go a long way off as missionaries, but the reality of this word implies that each of us, "as we go, wherever we go" are to live on mission. You are encouraged as a group to work through this missional practice every time you meet.

- **Enjoy:** Recall something you were thankful for from this past week.
- **Care:** How can you care for one another this week?
- **Serve:** Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal a specific name you could specifically serve? What is one way you can bless or serve that person?
- **Love:** How can you practice agape love and hospitality with this person?
- **Follow Jesus:** When you are with this person, how might you share your Jesus story or learn more about this person's story?
- **Obey the Holy Spirit:** Before you meet with this person, ask the Holy Spirit to guide your words and actions.
- **Live on Mission:** Follow through with whatever you are prompted to do. After interacting with this person, find another natural way to follow up with them.

Share all of this with a group member and ask them to hold you accountable to follow through. Close your gathering by praying Romans 15:13 over everyone.

For Further Reflection . . .

Watch the [Bible Project Video Justice](#)

Watch the [Bible Project Video Witness](#)

For your next group study consider one of the following studies:

1. *Surprise the World* - Michael Frost
2. *B.L.E.S.S.* - Dave & Jon Ferguson

WEEK #7

We Live on Mission



Leader's Corner

This entire resource was created to focus us on the mission of "Love My Community." By now we hope you and your group have caught the vision. Even though this is the last week of the study resource, it really begins the journey we've been praying you will continue. It's now time to put into practice the principles we've been learning. This week's resource focuses us on the following:

Main Idea: We are people who live on mission

Main Practice: Small, every day, intentional actions in your community that point people to Jesus

Main Teaching: John 15:1-17 – Jesus calls us to bear much fruit

Before your group gathers this week, prepare your own heart by creating space to listen and obey the Holy Spirit. Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal anything in your own heart that needs confession. Next, ask the Holy Spirit to reveal what your group needs to focus on in this week's teaching. As your group gathers, start with the following:

- Take a few minutes and talk through logistics for the mission your group has chosen. Narrow down anything that is confusing or undone.
- As you encounter questions or obstacles as a group, please let us know how we can help: (smallgroups@eastview.church).

As We Begin . . .

- Share something you are thankful for from this past week.
- Have group members share how they experienced last week's practice, "untie and raise the sails."

Love My Community . . .

WITH PRAYER:

Have someone read this prayer over the group:

"Holy Spirit, Breathe upon our gathering. Grant each of us a place to humbly receive and to faithfully serve. Give us a taste of that greater communion yet to come.

Enlarge our hearts. Expand our vision. Establish your Kingdom among us. AMEN"
(adapted from Every Moment Holy – McKelvey)

WITH PRINCIPLE:

"You were running (the race) well; who has interfered and prevented you from obeying the truth?"

Galatians 5:7

"Fear and laziness are mission killers . . . In fact, fear and laziness will motivate you to come up with dozens of reasons why you can't or shouldn't open yourself to others." Michael Frost - Surprise the World

Ok, we're going to be honest. We really wanted this study resource to be called "ReFocus." We even had a really cool logo. It seemed crystal clear to us that as a church family we have faced so many distractions and pain filled moments over the past six months that we needed a reminder of what really matters. . . **Jesus, and helping others see and know Jesus.**

But the truth is that we don't just need to refocus on an idea or a cute six week themed experience, we need to reorient our lives around real authentic life changing relationships. Our communities, your community wherever you live, desperately need the truth, hope, and love that only comes through Jesus. We are the ones that carry this message and mission.

Some of you may be wondering why we had you define your group's mission at the front end of this study. Here's the answer, *so that the mission continues beyond these moments*. So that the vision of Eastview can be actualized in the everyday moments that are ripe with opportunity for people like us to demonstrate the transforming love of Jesus.

It's time for each of us to stop sitting and taking and start going and making. Jesus didn't call us to sit in a seat on a Sunday for a couple of hours and raise a hand every now and then. He didn't call us to tithe and expect someone else to do Kingdom work. He didn't even say serve every now and then in my name. He called us to "GO" and by His Spirit be *led to bear much kingdom fruit* in our everyday communities.

"Love My Community" is going to take ongoing, real life, sacrificial love, and service that won't often be pretty or Instagram worthy. Full time Jesus people are more than just church sitters and dwellers, they are community movers and shakers. So cool logos aside, the real question for each of us is:

- Are you ready and willing to live differently?
- Are you ready not just to hear a vision but live it?
- Are you willing to obey what the Holy Spirit prompts you to do when it's not convenient?
- Are you devoted to living in real community and on genuine mission?
- Are you committed to Love Your Community in the way it needs it most?

1. Read John 15:1-11 as a group in the Amplified Version.

- What does Jesus reveal about himself?
- How does this apply to us who want to make a difference in our communities?
- In the first week of this study, we learned that living in community and on mission produces joy. What does Jesus say about joy in this passage?

2. Now, let's look at John 15:12-17 preferably in the Amplified Version.

- What does this passage say we should do together in community?
- How can we live this out within our mission?
- Combine John 15:1-17 and as a group create a summary sentence that