

TO GE TH ER

Thanks for downloading this sample of the TOGETHER Student Book from YM360's Event Resources line of Bible Studies.

This Student Book is the road map for your students' event experience. Here are just a few features:

- 45 full color pages
- Note taking areas for Large Group Sessions
- Interacts with Small Group Sessions your teachers access online
- Features four bonus devotions for use through your event
- Biblically solid, culturally relevant, highly interactive

If you have any questions about this Student Book, or any other YM360 Event Resource, don't hesitate to call.

We're here to help! | 1-888-969-6360

TO GET THE ER

LIVING IN
CHRIST-CENTERED
COMMUNITY

THIS BOOK BELONGS TO: _____

DATE STARTED: _____

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Together: Living Together In Christ-Centered Community

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Look at the world around you. It seems like there is more division than there is unity. Some division is kind of silly. Some is life changing. Into this landscape, the Gospel speaks a profound truth: in Christ, we are united. We are together.

Look around you at your friends. At the people in your youth group. Are you unified with one another, regardless of your differences, by your common love for Christ? If you are, get ready to grow even closer. If not, you're about to get the opportunity to answer an important question: "Why not?"

HAVE YOU PREPARED FOR THE JOURNEY?

Ask yourself: Is my heart prepared to be challenged? Am I willing to be changed? If you can't answer "yes" to these questions, this journey might not be nearly as spectacular as it could be. If you need to, take a moment and silently talk to God in prayer. Ask God to radically move in your life.

YOU'RE HOLDING YOUR MAP

This book you're holding is the road map for your journey. It will help guide your experiences. Write your name and the date in the front. Hold on to it. You may want to look back and remember this time in your life.

LEARN. AND TEACH.

Keep your eyes and ears open for those valuable moments where God wants to teach you something. But don't miss the chance to teach your friends, and to be taught by them. Your friends are with you in this experience. Be open to what God is doing in and through them, and how He might be using them to speak to you. And vice versa.

*“NOW
THE FULL
NUMBER
OF THOSE
WHO
BELIEVED
WERE OF
ONE HEART
AND
SOUL . . . ”*

ACTS 4:32

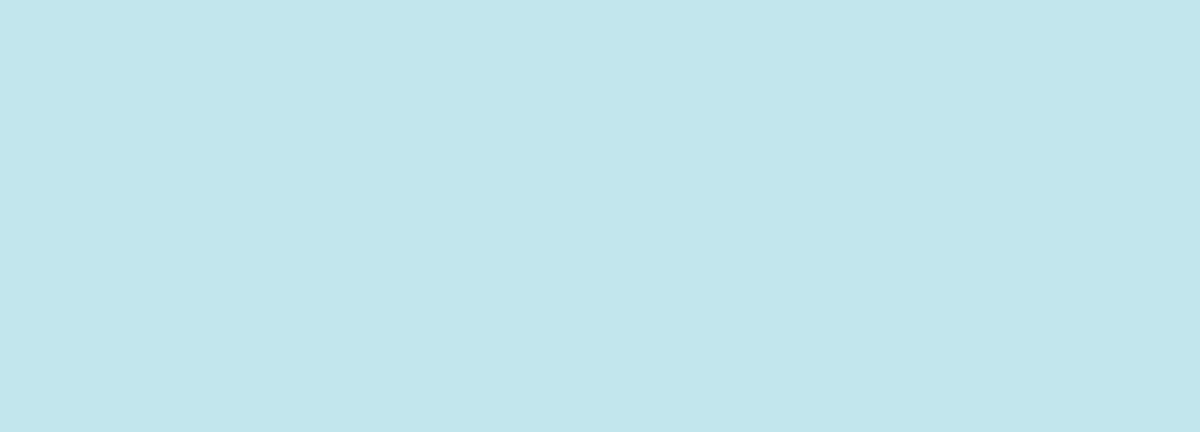
LARGE GROUP NOTES

SESSION 1

These two pages are designed for you to take notes on during Large Group Sessions. The stuff you're learning will really build on itself over the next few sessions. So even if you're not much of a note taker, you might want to at least jot down what you think is important.

TRY WRITING DOWN:

- Any specific teaching points
- Verse references for Scripture passages
- Quotes that make you think
- Anything you have a question about



SMALL GROUP INTRO

SESSION 1

Whether you like sports or not, they provide a great backdrop for one of our favorite kinds of stories: the comeback. There's nothing quite like a team rallying from behind with time expiring or the group of underdogs inexplicably coming back to beat the more talented team. Down three games to one in a seven-game series? No problem.

Do you know what makes a comeback possible even when all the odds are stacked against a team? The teams that come back when it looks impossible are ones where everyone is on the same page, and where everyone believes in the mission. It's amazing what's possible when people are all together.

Your church is intended to be the same way. The world around you is a place where people are constantly against one another. The world sees people in categories. Black. White. Rich. Poor. Good. Bad. This is the backdrop in which you do life. But the Church was never intended to be this way.

There is amazing power when you're all on the same page. When everyone is united, and on the same team, incredible results are possible.

This small group session will help you see exactly how your church is called to be unified, together, by your love for Jesus.

WHY SO MAD? Work with your group to suggest exactly what is the big problem between the groups listed.

SESSION 1

GETTING STARTED

**CAT
PEOPLE**

**DOG
PEOPLE**

**TEAM
TAYLOR**

**TEAM
KATIE**

**PINEAPPLE
ON PIZZA IS
DELISH**

**WHO PUTS
FRUIT ON
PIZZA?**

SES- SION ONE

DIGGING IN

Work with your group to read the passages and answer the questions below.

WHY SO DIFFERENT?

PART 1: AT ONE TIME . . . (VS. 2:11-12)

Paul, a Jew, used five phrases to describe what the life of a Gentile looked like apart from Christ. Can you spot them?

How would you sum up the Gentiles' condition based on these descriptions?

Remember, we're talking about the differences that divided Jews and Gentiles. Why would these same descriptions not be accurate for the Jews?

Knowing that the Jews were God's chosen people, how might some Jews have been tempted to view Gentiles, especially Gentile Christians?

PART 2: BUT NOW IN CHRIST . . . (VS. 2:13-18)

What is the visual Paul paints in verse 13?

What actually brings the Gentiles close to God? What exactly is Paul describing here?

Look at verses 14-15. Paul says that Jesus is the peace this world needs, and that Jesus tore down the wall of hostility that divided Jews and Gentiles. One author has said that through Jesus, God made peace both “horizontal and vertical.” What do you think this means?

Look at verse 16. Again, what was the means Jesus used to accomplish His mighty work of unity?

PART 3: TOGETHER, GOD’S DWELLING PLACE (VS. 2:19-22)

What does Paul say about the new identity made possible to Gentiles through Jesus’ death on the cross?

What metaphor, or word picture, does Paul use to describe the Church?

Read this quote and respond to it with your group.

“THE CROSS OF CHRIST WHICH BROUGHT TOGETHER SUCH DISPARATE PEOPLES CAN SURELY BE THE MEANS OF RECONCILIATION FOR THOSE PRESENTLY DIVIDED BY ETHNICITY, NATIONALITY, UPBRINGING, ECONOMIC STATUS, OR ANY OTHER EARTHLY DISTINCTIONS THAT WRONGLY SEPARATE US.”

(ESV Gospel Transformation Bible, Crossway)