



CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Visible: Bearing with One Another in Love



RENAISSANCE
CHURCH

Reflect & Discuss

1. Can you think of one or two people who are making your life more difficult now? Describe the dynamics. Please be careful to mask their identity so we can avoid gossip.
2. Christian shared three ways we use the concept of “bearing with” someone. Describe a relationship that requires you to “bear with” the other person in each particular way.

- Support
- Tolerance
- Endurance

3. Christian used 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 to speak about *bearing with one another in love*.

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

- Describe someone who loves you the way the Apostle Paul describes love here.
- Which characteristic of love do you find easiest to live out?
- Where do you find yourself most challenged by this passage? Where do you most need to grow in love?

4. Christian mentioned four thoughts that make *you* unbearable.

- “He always make me feel bad.”
- “It’s her character, but my environment.”
- “I can change him.”
- “This has nothing to do with God.”

Use the following questions to dig deeper into these problematic thoughts.

- Which of these thoughts are you most prone to tell yourself?
- How often do you find yourself saying “always” and “never” in conflicts? Describe.
- Can you think of an example of when you blamed your bad behavior or negative emotions on your environment or someone else’s behavior? Share it.
- Where might you extend more grace to someone as you consider their environment, circumstances, etc.?
- Have you tried to change someone else and failed? Describe.
- What might change if you consistently thought of your relationship with God when faced with difficult relationships with other people? How might your responses change if you considered them to be a significant part of your spiritual growth?

Personalize It

Let's personalize and apply what we've been discussing.

1. How do you need to grow in bearing with others in love?
2. What practical step(s) would you like to take this week?
3. How can we pray for you?