

OPEN:

- What is one of the earliest memories you have of church?
- Imagine you have just met someone who has absolutely no knowledge of what a church is. They've never been to a church service, never talked with a church member or attender, never even seen the inside of a church building. Divide into twos or threes and work together to help this person understand church using the following model. "Church is like _____, but _____." Come up with as many helpful variations of this as you can in the few minutes given to you. Come back together to share and discuss.

DIG:

P.13 *"God does not invite us to church because it's a comfortable place to find a bit of spiritual encouragement. No, he invites us into a spiritual family of misfits and outcasts. He welcomes us into a home that's rarely what we want yet just what we need."*

- What do you think about this?
- Does this describe VCC and your relationship to VCC?

P.26 provides this book's definition of what a church is.

- What questions do you have about this?
- What are your thoughts about this before reading what the chapters say?

P.28 *"What is a church? It's a group of people who know they've been loved by Christ and have begun to love one another like that."*

- What do you think of this definition? How is it helpful? Biblical? What is missing?

Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

- What is the main point of this passage?
- What is encouraging or challenging to you in this passage?

REFLECT:

- How has Covid-19 changed the way you think about or participate in church?
- How has this chapter changed the way you think about church?

APPLY:

- What do you think God would want you to start, stop, or do differently after our discussion today?

PRAY: