

EMBARK | WEEK 7 - GROW: CONNECTING TO THE CHURCH BODY

REVIEW: LAST WEEK'S THEME

Abiding in Christ

Key Scripture: John 15:5 (NIV)

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

Opening Reflection:

- Would anyone like to share something from their journaling or personal study from this past week?
- Would anyone like to share a way that they intentionally spent time in the Bible, prayer, or sharing their faith this week?

THIS WEEK'S FOCUS: CONNECTING TO THE CHURCH BODY

KEY SCRIPTURE: 1 CORINTHIANS 12:12 (NIV)

"Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ."

BIG IDEA

To embrace the vital role of Christian community and commit to worshiping, connecting, and serving within the church as essential parts of my discipleship journey.

DISCUSS

- What is the benefit of being part of a church?
- Will joining a group help me grow in my faith? How?

PERSONAL STORY

TEACHING VIDEO

VIDEO RECAP & DISCUSSION

Main Idea: Being part of a local church body is essential to living the full life Jesus offers.

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:12 (NIV)

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3 CORPORATE DISCIPLESHIP ESSENTIALS

1 WORSHIP IN A SERVICE - ACTS 2:42

Corporate worship is essential for spiritual growth and for encouraging others. God moves in ways together that He doesn't alone.

- *"They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."*

2 CONNECT INTENTIONALLY WITH OTHERS - HEBREWS 10:24–25

We grow best in community. We need people who encourage us, challenge us, and walk with us as we follow Jesus. True spiritual growth happens when we're known, supported, and stretched in authentic relationships.

- *"And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching."*

3 SERVE ON A TEAM - MARK 10:43-45

A servant mindset is essential to following Jesus. Serving at church strengthens the body of Christ and helps you grow.

- *"Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

DISCUSS

- How important is being involved in Christian community and a local church for you?
- Which of the three corporate discipleship essentials are you currently practicing?
- What's one step you could take this week to grow in connection to the church body?

ACTION STEP

Consider your next steps to connect intentionally with others at Black Rock and make a plan. Ideas:

- Commit to making church a weekly priority
- Invite someone from our Embark group for coffee or a meal
- Sign up to participate in a group
- Join a serving team

Journal about what you've learned over the 7 weeks of Embark. Ask for the Holy Spirit's help and guidance to continue to grow in your relationship with Jesus.

THE JOURNEY CONTINUES...

- **EMBARK** is just the beginning of Black Rock's Discipleship Pathway!
- The next step, **EQUIP**, launches Fall 2026. Save this binder so you can continue adding to it as you go through each step of the pathway.
- Focus on putting into practice what you learned over the past 7 weeks.
- If you have any questions or would like guidance for your next steps, please email: **groups@blackrock.org**

We're so glad you are on this journey with us!

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THE JOURNEY