



DISCUSSION GUIDE / SESSION 1 - ONE CHURCH

SERIES BIG IDEA

As ONE church with ONE vision, we will accomplish the ONE mission together.

THIS WEEK'S BIG IDEA

As **ONE** church with **ONE** vision, we will accomplish the **ONE** mission together.

ICE BREAKER

When you think of a #Familywin, what comes to mind?

VIDEO

Welcome to the first week of ONE. Our goal for the next five weeks is that every person at COMMUNITY would make God number **ONE** in their lives. Watch the week one video at communitychristian.org/one.

INTRODUCTION

Acts 4:32-35 will serve as the foundational scripture throughout this series. At first glance, "Acts" might seem like an odd name for a book in the Bible, but "Acts" refers to the "actions" of the extraordinary first century church who was united together as **ONE**, helping people find their way back to God.

READ ACTS 4:32-35 (NIV)

"All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need."

QUESTION 1

When you contemplate the idea of **ONE** church, what characteristics did the early believers in Acts exhibit that made them unified?

QUESTION 2

In this passage it says that the apostles, with great power, testified to the resurrection of Jesus. What is the difference between a factual report and the kind of witness the apostles gave?

QUESTION 3

COMMUNITY's mission is helping people find their way back to God (hpftwbTG). In this story, how do you see the apostles carrying out this mission?

The text says that the grace of God was powerfully at work in the life of the early church. Dallas Willard defines grace as "God acting in our life to accomplish what we cannot do on our own." (*Dallas Willard, Living A Transformed Life Adequate To Our Calling*)

QUESTION 4

What would it look like/feel like to have God's grace at work in your life? In the life of the church? In our community?



“Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.” James 1:17

QUESTION 5

God’s nature is one of continual gift (giving). Who have you known like this in your life? What do you notice about their life as a result of their unselfishness? What kind of impact has it made in their relationships?

QUESTION 6

The early church came together as one big family with one vision and one mission. They formed an amazing and generous community. What would it take for our church to come together in a similar way?

QUESTION 7

As we begin this new generosity initiative we hope everyone will participate and understand that God doesn’t want generosity *from us*, as much as he wants it *for us*. Where do you land on agreeing or disagreeing with that statement?

QUESTION 8

What is your prayer for the **ONE** Initiative? Write down our prayer on a 3 x 5 note card and share your prayer with the group.

CONCLUSION

These first Christ-followers had an opportunity to be part of something that was extraordinary, the opportunity to be part of something special that would last well beyond themselves...and they seized it! Here we are 2000 years later and we’re still talking about them and the impact they made on the world. So let’s come together as **ONE** church, with **ONE** mission and ask God to use COMMUNITY just like he did with the first century church—let’s do something extraordinary!