

# LG DISCUSSION LIFEGROUPS GUIDE

*Use these questions in your Life Group gatherings or for further discussion as a family.*

## **BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS RECONCILED | May 15, 2022**

### **SERMON RECAP | Philemon 1:8-20**

We are created in the image of God, made for relationships. However, we are unlike Him in that our relationships are not perfect - they are each broken in some way. But God desires restoration and wants us to experience relational wholeness.

### **THE LEAD IN**

- A nationwide study suggests that the average American has 8-9 close personal friends, and up to 150 people who they would consider as a friend. How accurate is this statistic for you?

### **GETTING INTO THE TEXT**

- Read Philemon 1:8-20 and then Ephesians 4:32. How does the charge in Ephesians parallel the charge in Philemon 1:18?

### **GOING DEEPER**

- In Philemon, we see webs of relationship between Philemon and Onesimus, Onesimus and Paul, and Paul and Philemon. Are there any types of similar relational webs in your Oikos? Maybe some of these relationships are tense, hard or broken.
- The relationship between Philemon and Onesimus seemed hopeless. In the relationships you just identified that have tension, what holds you back from forgiveness and reconciliation?
- The definition of forgiveness is seeing others not defined by their sin, but as who they are. Are there any instances where you see people defined by their issues? Have you ever been part of a relationship that shifted, and reconciliation was achieved? Share these stories and celebrate them with each other!

### **PRAYER**

- Pray for each other as you interact in these tense relationships. Pray that you would have the courage to pursue Spirit-led reconciliation.