



SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Week 3 July 31, 2022
"Encanto"



OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you for the miracle of each and everyone one of us here today. You have created all humanity in your image and given us the breath of life. Father, we know that your Church is to be open and welcoming to all people, but too often we only welcome people who are like us. We want to get this right, so help us to not exclude others from your Body. We pray this in the matchless and powerful name of Jesus. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Romans 8 :28 (NIV)

²⁸ And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

Ephesians 4:11-13 (NIV)

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³ until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

John 8:31-32 (NIV)

³¹ To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. ³² Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

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“Asbury at the Movies: Encanto”

INTRODUCTION

Encanto tells the tale of an extraordinary family, the Madrigals, who live hidden in the mountains of Colombia, in a magical house, in a vibrant town called an Encanto. The magic of the Encanto has blessed every child in the family with a unique gift from super strength to the power to heal... every child except one, Mirabel. But when she discovers that the magic surrounding the Encanto is in danger, Mirabel decides that she, the only ordinary Madrigal, might just be her exceptional family's last hope.

The Madrigal family was missing out on the contributions of Mirabel because they didn't think she had any special gift to help them. In the church, nobody can be left out or the Body of Christ will be incomplete. Sometimes we miss the fact that our talents or abilities are not the gift. *We* are the gift; we are the miracle. When we recognize that everybody is somebody in the body of Christ the Church becomes complete.

QUESTIONS

1. Did you see the movie *Encanto*? What are your thoughts on the movie?
2. When have you had to wait longer than you wished for a divine promise to come true? Are there promises you are still waiting for? What helps you to keep trusting as you wait?
3. Do you struggle with including people in the church who are different from you? How can you be more welcoming to people who may be new, young, or unique?
4. Have you ever blamed others for your challenges, discomforts, and difficult situations? Was it all their fault, or do you need to recognize your role in the situation?
5. Do you struggle with a fear of change and miss God's blessings for you in the future?

FINAL APPLICATION

Are you an active part of the Body of Christ? If not, take one small step this week to get involved.