

SMALL GROUP STUDY GUIDE

Week 3 July 21, 2024

"Dungeons & Dragons: Honor Among Thieves"

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we thank you for giving us each person in this group. We come from different backgrounds, with different ways of thinking, and with different skills; but it's only together – not individually – that we are your hands and feet in the world. Bless our time and discussion together, that we may grow deeper in our care for each other and in our love of you. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Galatians 6:9-10 (NIV)

⁹Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

1 Corinthians 12:12-21, 27 (NIV)

¹² Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. ¹⁴ Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

¹⁵Now if the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁶And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. ¹⁹ If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body.

²¹The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!"

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

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INTRODUCTION

The movie "Dungeons and Dragons: Honor Among Thieves" centers around a bard named Edgin who sought a special tablet that could bring his wife back from the dead. Surrounded by a cast of characters – each with their own abilities – Edgin rediscovers his purpose. Just like the group this film is centered around, the body of Christ comes with its own sea of people with unique talents and abilities; each of which is needed to fulfill a mission.

You may not think, act, share the same mindset as, or possess the same skill set as the person who sits in the pew next to you, but all of us are needed to carry out the mission of the church. Take time this week to consider your own place; and how you can help to bring out the unique "powers" of those who may be different from you – but who are equally important in "being the church."

QUESTIONS

- 1. Discuss a time in your life when "doing good" was the hard road... and one you chose not to follow. What were the circumstances? What made "doing good" difficult? What (if any) were the consequences of your choices?
- 2. Read Galatians 6:9-10 (on page 1). Do you find it hard to "do good" to all people? If so, what makes it challenging? Do you believe that challenge is an insurmountable obstacle? If so, why? If not, what would help you get past it?
- 3. Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-21 (on page 1). Have you ever felt that you were not an important part of the church? Why? Did something happen to make you feel that way or was it a feeling that you had about yourself? What makes you feel needed and vital in the church?
- 4. In any group dynamic not just a church what happens when any one person or part of the group believes themselves to be more important than the other? How can a group work to make sure that the worth of all of its parts is recognized, validated, and cared for?
- 5. Read 1 Corinthians 12:27 (on page 1). What does it mean to you that you no matter who you have been or who are you belong as part of the body of Christ?

FINAL APPLICATION

What is one thing you can do this week to make sure that all parts of the body of Christ are seen as vital in the work of making disciples?