



# STUDY QUESTIONS FOR JANUARY 18

## VISION SUNDAY

*BE THE CHURCH*

### **Icebreakers!**

1. How would you describe the church to an alien who had never heard of it before?
2. Why did you decide to start attending a church? What did you expect when you came?

### **Digging Deeper**

3. **Read 1 Peter 2:4-5, 9.** How does Peter describe God's people? What do these pictures draw out about us?
4. **Read 1 Tim 5:1-2; 2 Cor 6:17-18; Matt 12:49-50; and 1 John 3:14-18.** How do these suggest that the church is the family of God? What ought to characterize such a family?
5. **Read Eph 5:31-33; 2 Cor 11:2-3.** How is the church meant to be the bride of Christ? As the bride, how must we, both apart and together, follow 2 Corinthians 11:3?
6. **Read 1 Cor. 12:12-27.** Since we are one body, how do we show both unity and diversity in the church? How do bodies depend on every member to function well?
7. **Read Eph. 1:22-23, 4:15-16 and Col. 2:19.** What makes it essential that all parts of the body stay in a right relationship with the head? How does a church stay united *in Christ*?
8. **Read John 15:5.** How is Jesus' analogy of a vine with branches similar to a body with many parts? How does a church of branches continue to draw life from Jesus, the Vine?
9. **Read 1 Cor. 3:6-9.** In what way(s) is the church like a field? Or like a building? How are we both fellow workers with God *and* the field where He works?
10. **Read 1 Tim. 3:14-15.** What are pillars and buttresses used for? How must the church live into the way Paul describes the church to Timothy, regarding the truth?
11. What did you hear in the message this Sunday that stood out to you? Is there anything you would emphasize, add, or change?

### **Application**

12. What pictures of the church encourage you the most? How do you help live them out?
13. What pictures of the church challenge you the most? Who can help you live them out?