

LOST IN TRANSLATION

Part 1: What's In A Name?

Big Idea: Being a part of a local gathering of Jesus followers means you are a part of something big. It's up to each generation to determine what Christianity looks like, sounds like and reacts like.

Opening Question:

- What comes to mind when you hear the word "church"? How has your view of church changed over time?

Scripture Exploration:

- **Read Matthew 16:15-18.** Jesus uses the word *ekklesia* (assembly/movement). Why do you think this distinction between movement and building is so important?
- **Read 1 Corinthians 6:19-20.** What does it mean that our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit? How does this challenge the way we think about "church"?

Going Deeper:

- The early church had no buildings, Bibles, or bands—just a movement fueled by faith in the resurrection. How does this compare to how we experience church today?
- When the church loses its way, people get hurt. Have you or someone you know experienced "church hurt"? What do you think caused it?
- How do our actions and reactions as Jesus followers shape the way others see Christianity?

Personal Application:

- If you were explaining Christianity to someone who had never heard of it, how would you describe it? Would it sound like a movement or an institution?
- Jesus' followers are called to be an assembly that moves, not a place people go to. How can you personally embody this idea in your daily life?

Final Thoughts & Prayer:

- What is one thing from today's conversation that challenges or encourages you?
- How can our group pray for each other as we seek to live out the *ekklesia* of Jesus?