

## Discussion Questions for weeks of January 17, 2016



### **BIG IDEA:**

Sometimes we tend to put things off or not take things as seriously as we should. The Bible says that meeting together with other Christians and deepening Christ-centered friendships is something that we should not ignore or take lightly. Hebrews 10:25 says that we should "never give up" meeting together so that we can consistently encourage, support, and strengthen each other.

Simply gathering is not enough. Authentic encouragement is only possible for authentic people. We will never really feel loved until we really feel known. Many of us don't feel encouraged because we don't allow ourselves to be known. We should never give up striving to be authentic...scars and all.

### **ICE BREAKER:**

Who has the best scar and scar story?

### **DISCUSSION:**

Look up and read Hebrews 10:25 together. Why do you think "meeting together" should be a priority for Christians?

*We all need encouragement, and we all need to be reminded of God's love for us.*

How might "meeting together" be different than just hanging out?

What are some opportunities that you have to "meet together" with other believers?

Why is encouragement an important thing? Would anyone like to share about a time that someone really encouraged you?

At Wake, we talked about how "authentic encouragement is only possible for authentic people". What do you think that means?

*You'll never really feel loved until you really feel known*

Do you think it's possible that many of us don't feel encouraged because we don't allow ourselves to be known?

How would it feel to have everything about your life (every sin, every struggle, every lie, every lust, every emotional wound, every time you've cried, etc.) out in the open still feel loved and encouraged by other people?

### **APPLICATION:**

Look back at Hebrews 10:25. What's the first thing we can do to try to be more authentic with each other?

Why do you think it is important to meet consistently in order to develop authenticity?

*Time builds trust. Makes it feel safer to be vulnerable.*

Look up and read Proverbs 28:13 together. What does this verse tell us to do?

How could confessing a sin be a healthy thing?

Look up and read Romans 15:7 and James 5:16 together. When someone is authentic and they confess weakness or sin, how should other people respond?

*Accept and pray for each other*

Look up and read 2 Corinthians 12:9-10. Can anyone explain in your own words how God is able to turn weakness into strength?

Who wants to try being more authentic in this group today? It'd be great if everyone was able to share a "I'm a believer who struggles with..." confession.



## **MEMORY VERSE** HEBREWS 10:25

*Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.*