

## Connect Group Conversation Questions

Week of January 21, 2024

### MAIN IDEA

This Sunday Pastor Steve used the analogy of LEGO bricks to illustrate unity in diversity within the church. He highlighted that like the 400 billion LEGO bricks in the world, we are all different, yet designed to connect with one another. Pastor Steve delved into how the Apostle Paul, even while imprisoned, rejoiced in Christ being preached, regardless of the motives behind it (Philippians 1:15-18). He emphasized the importance of an "anyway" resolve, focusing solely on Jesus Christ and Him crucified (1 Corinthians 2:1-2), amidst our differences. Pastor Steve's message was a powerful reminder that our unity in Christ is more important than our individual differences, just like different LEGO pieces coming together to build something beautiful.

#### Leader Tip:

*Encourage open and honest sharing in your group. Remind everyone that it's okay to have different viewpoints. Use Pastor Steve's message about the LEGO analogy to foster a safe space for sharing, emphasizing that our unity in Christ triumphs over our differences.*

### TALK IT OUT

- **Reflecting on Differences:** Think about a time when someone in your church or community approached a situation differently than you would. How did you react, and how can Philippians 1:15-18 guide us in such situations?
- **'Anyway' Resolve:** 1 Corinthians 2:1-2 talks about Paul's resolve to know nothing except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. How can we apply this 'anyway' resolve in our daily lives, especially when facing disagreements or misunderstandings within our church family?
- **Impact of Our Words:** James 3:9-10 warns us about the power of our words. Share a personal experience where your words had a significant impact, either positive or negative. How can we use our words to build unity in our church?
- **Embracing Diversity:** What are some practical ways we can embrace and celebrate the diverse 'LEGO pieces' in our church, recognizing that we are all different but designed to connect and build together?

## Students/Young Adults

- **Differences in School:** Have you ever disagreed with a friend or teacher at school? How can Paul's teachings in Philippians 1:15-18 help you in such situations?
- **Finding Common Ground:** In what ways can you relate to the 'anyway' resolve that Paul talks about in 1 Corinthians 2:1-2 in your school or with your friends?
- **Power of Words Among Peers:** Discuss a time when words either hurt or encouraged you or someone you know. Reflect on James 3:9-10 and talk about how we can use our words for good.
- **Valuing Everyone's Uniqueness:** What are some ways you can show appreciation for the different talents and personalities in your school or youth group?

## Parents of School-Aged Children

- **Teaching Unity in Diversity:** How can you use the LEGO analogy from Pastor Steve's message to teach your children about valuing differences in others?
- **Setting an Example:** Share a story where you had to apply the 'anyway' resolve in your family or work life. How does 1 Corinthians 2:1-2 inspire you in these moments?
- **Impact of Words in Family:** Reflect on a time when words had a significant impact in your family. Discuss James 3:9-10 and how you can use words to strengthen your family's unity.
- **Embracing Each Child's Uniqueness:** Discuss how you can better appreciate and nurture the unique 'LEGO piece' that each of your children represents.

## Optional Discussion Topics

- **Diversity in Unity:** Explore how our differences can strengthen our church's unity. Discuss real-life examples from your community or the larger church body.
- **Biblical Examples of Unity in Diversity:** Delve into Biblical stories that showcase unity amidst diversity, such as the early church in Acts.
- **Challenges to Unity:** Discuss the challenges that the modern church faces in maintaining unity and how we can overcome them, inspired by Paul's teachings.

- **Role of Leadership in Fostering Unity:** Explore the role of church leaders in fostering a culture of unity and inclusivity within the church, drawing from Pastor Steve's approach.