



**NOTE:** This discussion guide is intended for groups who have already gone through the Better Together Home Team Study in Fall 2017. If you have not, your leader will provide you with the study when you meet.

# Start Small BETTER TOGETHER: WEEK 1 • ROMANS 12:5

I Big Idea God's mission here is people—He did it small. Join Him.

Read & Discuss Answers Write notes and prayers on the back

### **OPENING QUESTIONS**

- 1. Would you rather work at a small project/task alone, or with a group on a bigger task?
- 2. Outside of your Home Team, do you currently work with a group that is very effective or enjoyable? What makes it work well?
- 3. Was there anything in this weekend's message that you strongly agreed with, disagreed with, or left you confused?
- 4. What stood out to you in this week's teaching?

#### IN THE WORD

- Read Romans 12:3-8 and notice how the writer emphasizes some of the unique roles we play in each other's lives (your giftedness may not necessarily be on this list). Why do you think he tells us to "think with sober judgment" about these gifts? What role do others around you play in helping you do that?
- 2. In the following scriptures, we notice believers being very intentional about encouraging or supporting each other:
  - In Romans 1:8-13, Paul is expressing his plans to travel to Rome and encourage Christians there for the first time. What kind of preparation do you think this required? Have you ever put this kind of effort into encouraging others?

- In Hebrews 10:24-25, God tells us to consider how to encourage each other. How often do you put thought or time into considering how you can encourage others?
- 3. 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 tells us to comfort others with the comfort that we have received from God. Are there struggles or experiences of suffering you have faced that you think God wants to use to benefit others?

## MAKING IT PERSONAL

- 1. Did you have any fear, hesitancy, or reservations before you began participating in a Home Team? What were they? What helped you overcome them?
- 2. Is there something you feel led to do that would improve your ability to encourage others in your Home Team, work, or family?
- 3. What stories and experiences have you heard from others in your Home Team that have encouraged you or been helpful to you? Have they opened your eyes to something outside your experience or widened your perspective in any way?
- 4. Have you ever received helpful correction, warning, or concern from someone whose intent was to be thoughtful and helpful?

### CONTINUED LEARNING

There are many other gifts and expressions of service and love that are not specifically mentioned in Romans 12:3-8. Consider how you might grow in a gift you have received for the benefit of others in your Home Team or other group in which you are associated.

# **Notes & Prayers**

