

IS CHRISTIANITY ABOUT ME OR WE?

Discussing the church

HEAD



1. **Where do we go to understand?**

-Search the scripture-

- Colossians 1:15-20
- Matthew 16:13-20
- 1 Corinthians 12:27-30
- 1 Timothy 3:1-13
- John 17:20-21
- John 13:34-35

HEART



2. **What questions does this cause you to ask?**

-Acknowledge the struggle-

- Why can't my faith just be about me and Jesus? I don't need the church.
- I've been really hurt by "the church."
- I don't know what my role is in the church.
- Why does the behind-the-scenes of the church look so ugly sometimes?
- Wasn't Jesus all about the faith of the individual?
- Why is the Church so divided?
- Who's right?

How do the scriptures above help as you wrestle through your questions?

-Invite the Spirit into the mystery-

~~What Chapel Hill's pastors have understood in our wrestling:~~

Fearless Q – Week 10

The “capital C” Church is the Church invisible, which represents all those who believe in Jesus and are saved. The “little c” church is the church visible, representative of all those who are seeking to follow Jesus as members of a local body of believers. The Bible likens the Church— one unified body with many parts that all need one another to function. Jesus is the head of this body, the Church. The Church is his bride, the one that He loves. So any discussion we have about the body needs to be mindful of the place that Jesus has ordained for the Church and of the love he has for Her. The way that we interact with one another, how we organize as many churches, and how we worship requires us to recognize the witness that Jesus has left of himself through his Church.

HANDS

3. How can we talk about this with others?

-Practice the conversation-

- If you move to a new city, how will you decide what church to attend?
- What would you say to a friend who doesn't think joining a local church is important?



4. Take it to the Lord in prayer.

Jesus, we echo the prayer that you prayed for us— may we be one. Would all of us members of this LifeGroup be one as you are one; would all the members of Chapel Hill be one as you are one; would all the churches in Gig Harbor be one as you are one; would all the denominations be one as you are one. We want to be a unified WE, representing who you are to your world. Unite us. Perfect us. We pray for these churches that we have been a part of [allow everyone to pray for the churches they have been in and their pastors by name]. Where we have been hurt by church, we ask you to forgive those who have hurt us [give time in silence to ask God to forgive]. For the sake of your name and your glory, work through your Church. May we be a bride ready for you when you return. In Jesus' name, Amen.