"For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised." (2 Cor 5:14-15, ESV)

BE WELCOMING – Week One

KEY SCRIPTURE: A verse to memorize and meditate on this week.

"Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling." (1 Peter 4:8–9, ESV**)**

TAKING IT FURTHER: A section of scripture to ponder in depth.

"Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward." (Matthew 10:40–42, ESV)

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QUESTIONS: Considerations to renew your mind and move you to action.

- What stands out in this Scripture?
- What does this Scripture teach us about God and people?
- What might God might be calling you to repent of and change in your life?
- How can you put into action what God has taught you in this Scripture?

HOW I WILL: Ways to practice this discipline.

- Set a date to treat your pastor or other church worker to a meal.
- Make someone new feel welcome at church or some other setting.

This week do one of the above or a similar action that fits in your settings.

PRAYER: Words to turn your heart to God and ask for His blessing.

O holy and most merciful God, You have taught us the way of Your commandments. We implore You to pour out Your grace into our hearts. Cause it to bear fruit in us that, being ever mindful of Your mercies and Your laws, we may always be directed to Your will and daily increase in love toward You and one another. Enable us to resist all evil and to live a godly life. Help us to follow the example of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, and to walk in His steps until we shall possess the kingdom that has been prepared for us in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

"What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—
practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you."
(Philippians 4:9, ESV)

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