

# ALL IN

LOVING GOD, FORMING THE SOUL, BUILDING THE CHURCH

ADULT WEDNESDAY EVENING  
**BIBLE STUDY**

STUDENT HANDOUT

SPIRITUAL  
FORMATION

EXPOSITORY  
BIBLE STUDY

CHURCH  
UNITY

AFRICAN AMERICAN  
BAPTIST CHURCH  
CONTEXT

*Theme Scripture:*  
**DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9**



# *All In*

## *Loving God, Forming the Soul, Building the Church*

---

### **SERIES PURPOSE:**

THIS BIBLE STUDY IS DESIGNED TO HELP US UNDERSTAND WHAT IT MEANS TO BE “ALL IN” WITH GOD. WE ARE STUDYING SPIRITUAL FORMATION, WHICH MEANS HOW GOD SHAPES OUR HEARTS, MINDS, HABITS, RELATIONSHIPS, SERVICE, AND WITNESS SO THAT WE BECOME MORE FAITHFUL DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST.

---



**All In Means a Renewed Mind: Being Formed, Not Conformed**

**Primary Scripture Passage:** Romans 12:1-8, ESV

**Lesson Introduction:** Romans 12 begins with the word “therefore.” That means Paul is connecting Christian living to everything he has already taught about the mercy of God. God does not call us to live holy lives so that we can earn His mercy. He calls us to surrender because mercy has already been given in Christ.

**This lesson reminds us that the world is always trying to shape the church. But God forms His people by renewing the mind and making believers useful in the body of Christ.**

**Lesson Aim:** To understand that spiritual formation requires surrender to God, resistance to worldly conformity, renewal of the mind, and humble service in the body of Christ.

**Read the Primary Passage:** Romans 12:1-8, ESV

**Notes from the Scripture Reading:**

---

---

---

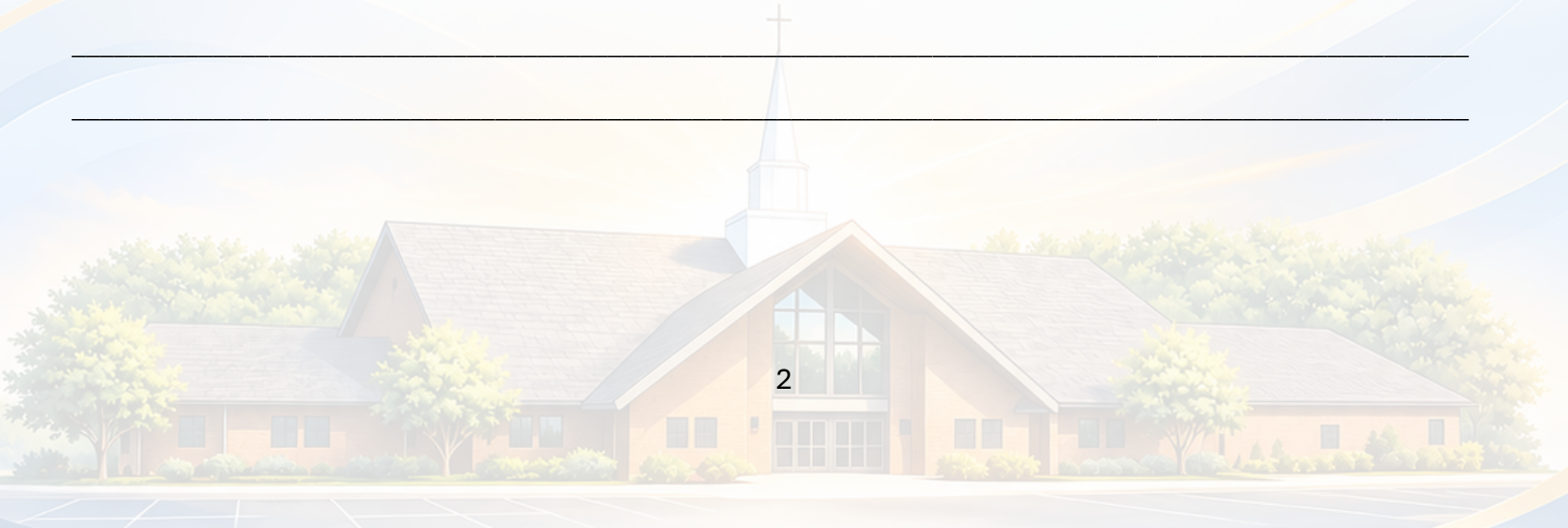
---

---

---

---

---



## INTO THE WORD: KEY POINTS AND KEY WORDS

**Key Word 1:** Mercies (Greek: oiktirmoi)

**Definition:** This word refers to God’s compassion, pity, and covenant kindness. In Romans, the appeal to live holy lives is grounded in grace already given, not in an attempt to earn God’s acceptance.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 2:** Present (Greek: paristemi)

**Definition:** To place at someone’s disposal, offer, or make available. Paul uses worship language: believers place their embodied lives before God as an offering.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 3:** Bodies (Greek: somata)

**Definition:** Paul does not call for vague spirituality. The body represents the whole embodied life: habits, labor, sexuality, speech, money, presence, and public conduct.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Key Word 4:** Living Sacrifice (Greek: thusia zosa)

**Definition:** Old covenant sacrifices were placed on the altar; believers now live altar-shaped lives. The paradox is that the sacrifice is living, continual, and responsive.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 5:** Conformed (Greek: syschematizesthe)

**Definition:** To be shaped according to an external pattern or scheme. This age pressures believers to adopt its assumptions, reactions, priorities, and idols.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 6:** Transformed (Greek: metamorphousthe)

**Definition:** To be changed in form from within. This is not cosmetic religious behavior; it is inner renewal that becomes visible in conduct.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Key Word 7:** Renewal (Greek: anakainosis)

**Definition:** A making new again. The mind is re-educated by God’s mercy, Scripture, Spirit, and community so believers discern what pleases God.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 8:** Body and Members (Greek: soma and mele)

**Definition:** Paul shifts from individual surrender to corporate belonging. The renewed mind recognizes that each believer is part of a larger body with gifts for service.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

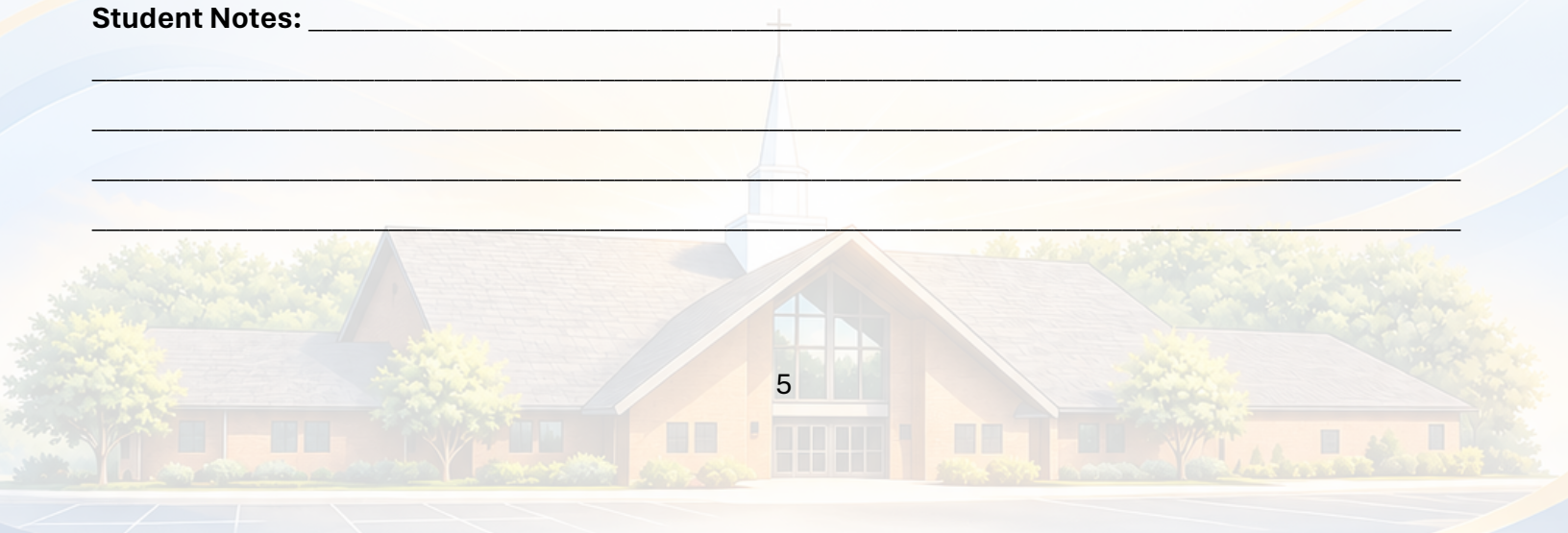
### EXPOSITORY TEACHING POINTS

**Teaching Point 1:** The “therefore” connects doctrine to discipleship.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Teaching Point 2:** Spiritual formation includes the body.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Teaching Point 3:** The world is always trying to disciple the church.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Teaching Point 4:** A renewed mind produces humble service.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **SPIRITUAL FORMATION FOCUS**

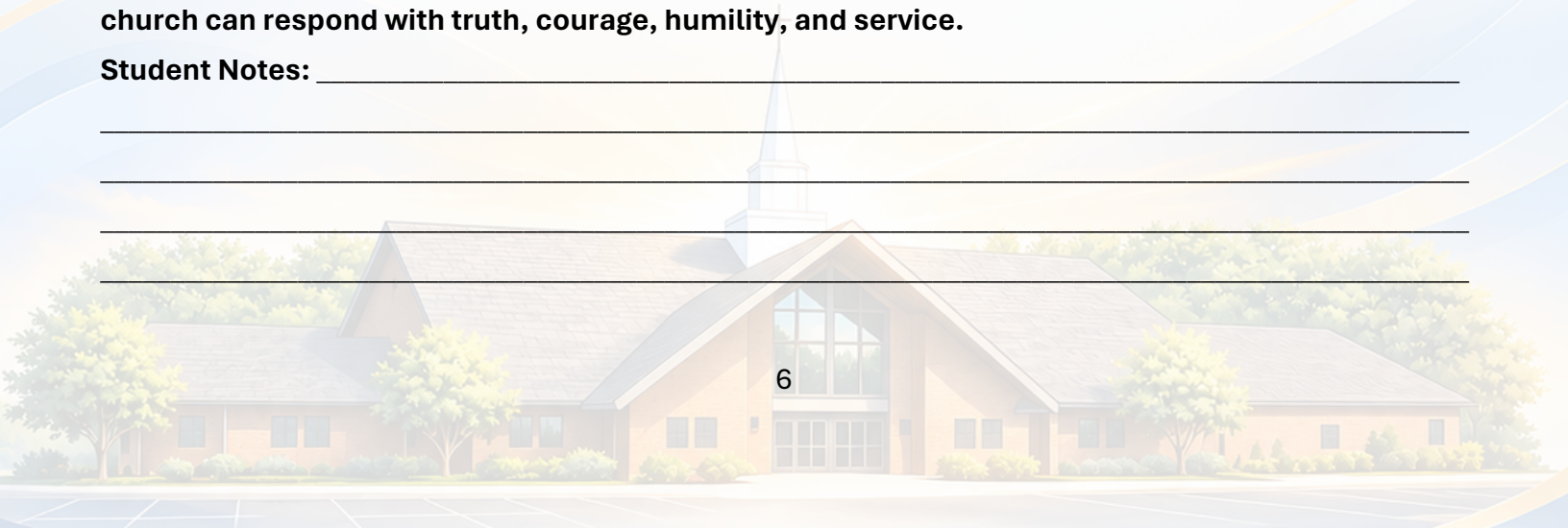
**The renewed mind is not merely smarter; it is surrendered. God teaches His people to interpret life through mercy rather than fear, pride, bitterness, or cultural pressure.**

**Student Reflection:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **CONTEMPORARY BAPTIST CHURCH CONNECTION**

**In Black communities, believers often carry heavy pressures: economic strain, grief, caregiving, health disparities, racial profiling, political disappointment, and community violence. Romans 12 does not deny pressure; it teaches believers not to be defined by it. God renews the mind so the church can respond with truth, courage, humility, and service.**

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**1. What are some ways American culture tries to conform our thinking?**

---

---

---

---

---

**2. What does it mean to present your body to God, not just your emotions?**

---

---

---

---

---

**3. How does a renewed mind help us deal with anger, fear, grief, racism, and political division?**

---

---

---

---

---

**4. Why does Paul move from personal transformation to serving in the body?**

---

---

---

---

---

**5. What gifts in our church need to be developed, encouraged, or released?**

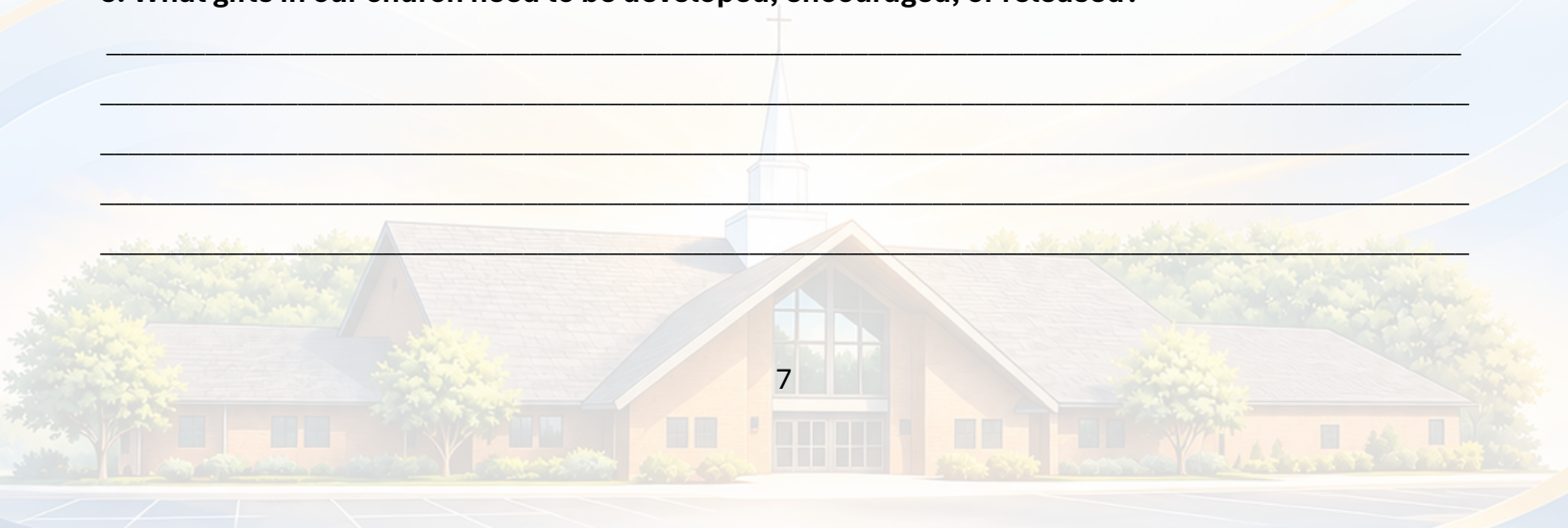
---

---

---

---

---



**SMALL GROUP WORK / EXERCISE**

**Conformed or Transformed Case Studies**

**Assign your group one scenario:**

**Scenario 1:**

**A church member shares misinformation online because it supports their political side.**

**Scenario 2:**

**A longtime member resists a new ministry because “we never did it that way.”**

**Scenario 3:**

**A gifted member is afraid to serve because they feel unworthy.**

**Scenario 4:**

**Political tension is creating division in the church.**

**Scenario 5:**

**A grieving family will not ask for help because they do not want to appear weak.**

**For your assigned scenario, answer:**

**What pattern of the world is present?**

---

---

---

---

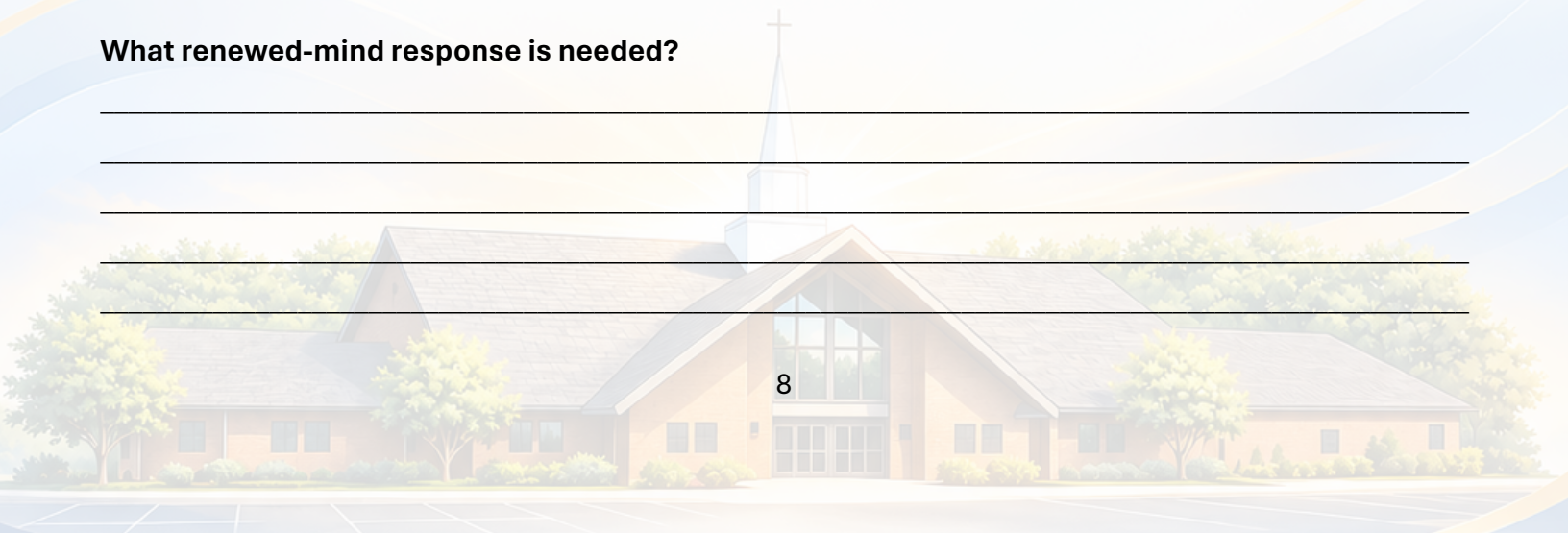
**What renewed-mind response is needed?**

---

---

---

---



**How should the church respond as Christ's body?**

---

---

---

---

---

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**Lord, by Your mercy, renew our minds. Break worldly patterns off our thinking and make us humble, discerning, faithful, and useful in Your church. Amen.**



**All In Means One Body: Being Formed for Unity and Service**

**Primary Scripture Passage:** 1 Corinthians 12:12-27, ESV

**Lesson Introduction:** The Corinthian church had spiritual gifts, but it also had pride, comparison, division, and disorder. Paul responded by giving them a picture of the church as one body with many members. This lesson reminds us that the church is not a religious audience. The church is a living body. Every member belongs. Every member matters. Every member has responsibility. God forms isolated individuals into a responsible community.

**Lesson Aim:** To understand that spiritual formation moves believers from isolation, pride, and spectatorship into belonging, unity, mutual care, and service.

**Read the Primary Passage:**

**1 Corinthians 12:12-27, ESV**

**Notes from the Scripture Reading:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



## INTO THE WORD: KEY POINTS AND KEY WORDS

### Key Word 1:

**Body** (Greek: soma)

**Definition:** Paul uses soma to describe the church as a living organism, not a religious audience. A body has unity, diversity, coordination, and shared life.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 2:** Members (Greek: mele)

**Definition:** Members are body parts with function and belonging. Membership is not merely enrollment; it is organic participation in the life and work of the church.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 3:** Baptized (Greek: baptizo)

**Definition:** To immerse or place into. Paul emphasizes the Spirit's work of incorporating believers into one body across social and ethnic divisions.

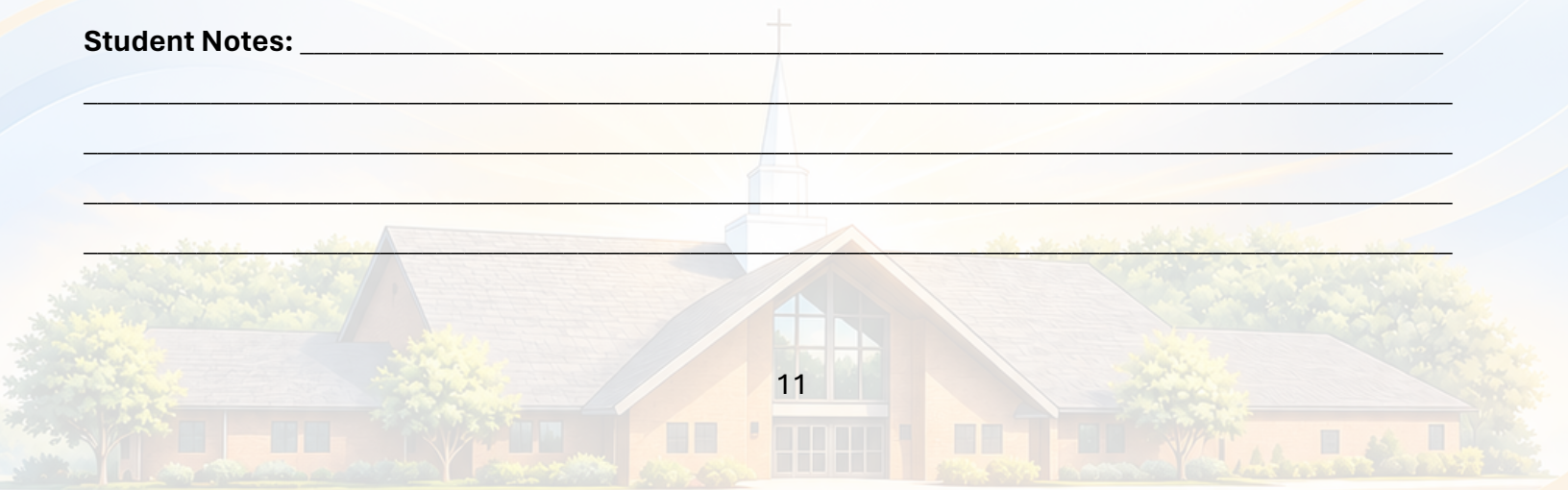
**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**Key Word 4:** Spirit (Greek: pneuma)

**Definition:** The Holy Spirit is the divine agent of unity and gifting. Church unity is not produced by personality or preference but by the Spirit joining believers to Christ.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 5:** Need (Greek: chreia)

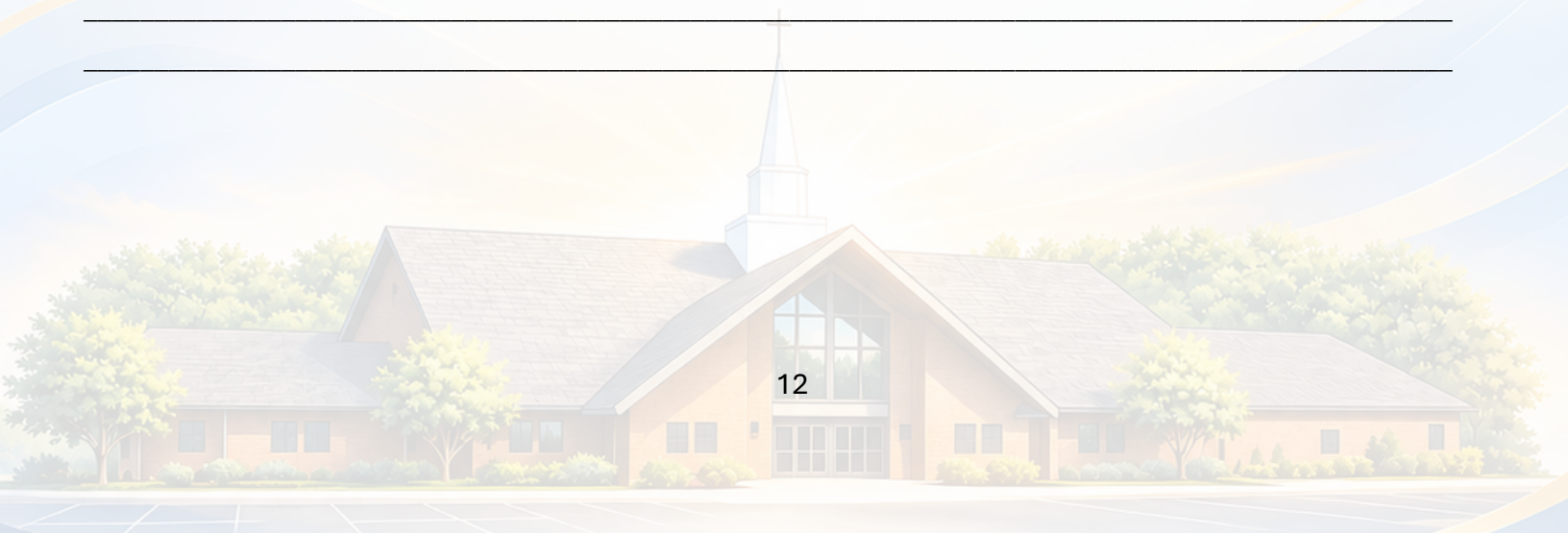
**Definition:** Paul says no part can claim it has no need of another. Need confronts independence, pride, and classism in the church.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 6:** Indispensable

**Definition:** This means necessary or essential. Paul teaches that weaker or less visible parts are necessary. God reverses human status systems by giving honor to parts people might overlook.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Key Word 7:** Suffer / Rejoice Together (Greek: sympatheo / synchairo)

**Definition:** The church shares pain and honor. Spiritual formation creates emotional and practical solidarity within the body.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### EXPOSITORY TEACHING POINTS

**Teaching Point 1:** Paul is addressing a divided church.

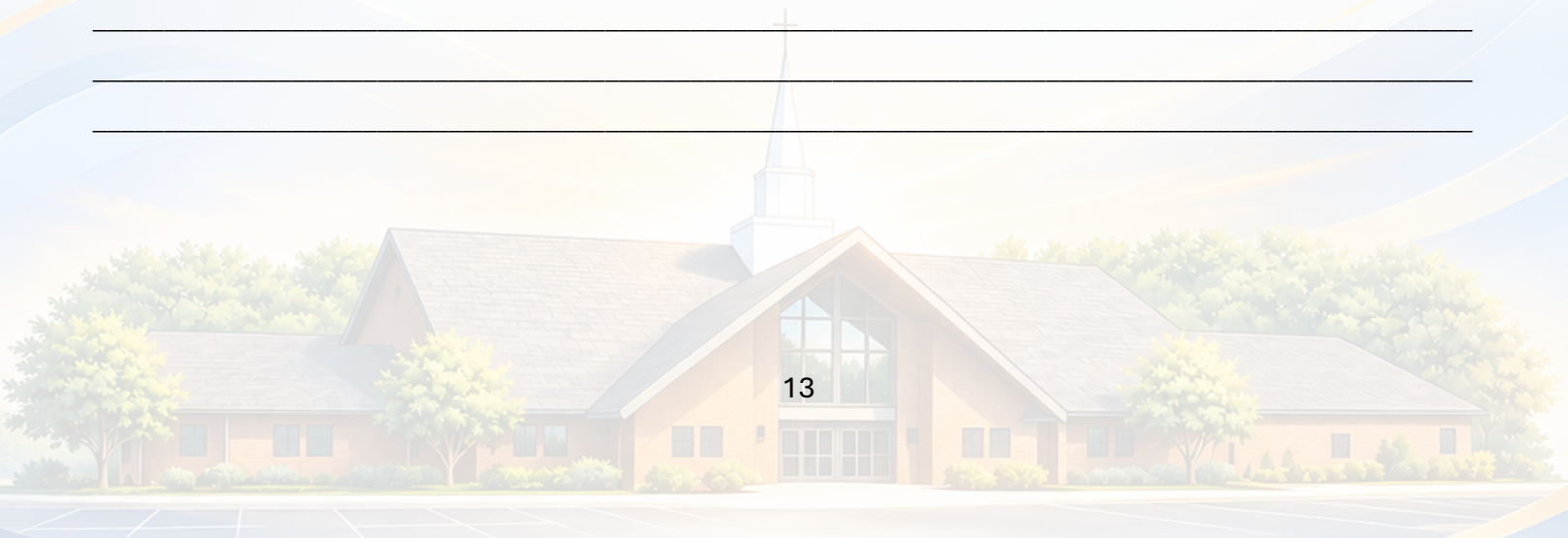
**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Teaching Point 2:** Difference is God's design, not a defect.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Teaching Point 3:** The body confronts both superiority and inferiority.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Teaching Point 4:** Shared suffering and shared honor are marks of maturity.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Teaching Point 5:** Shared suffering and shared honor are marks of maturity.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### SPIRITUAL FORMATION FOCUS

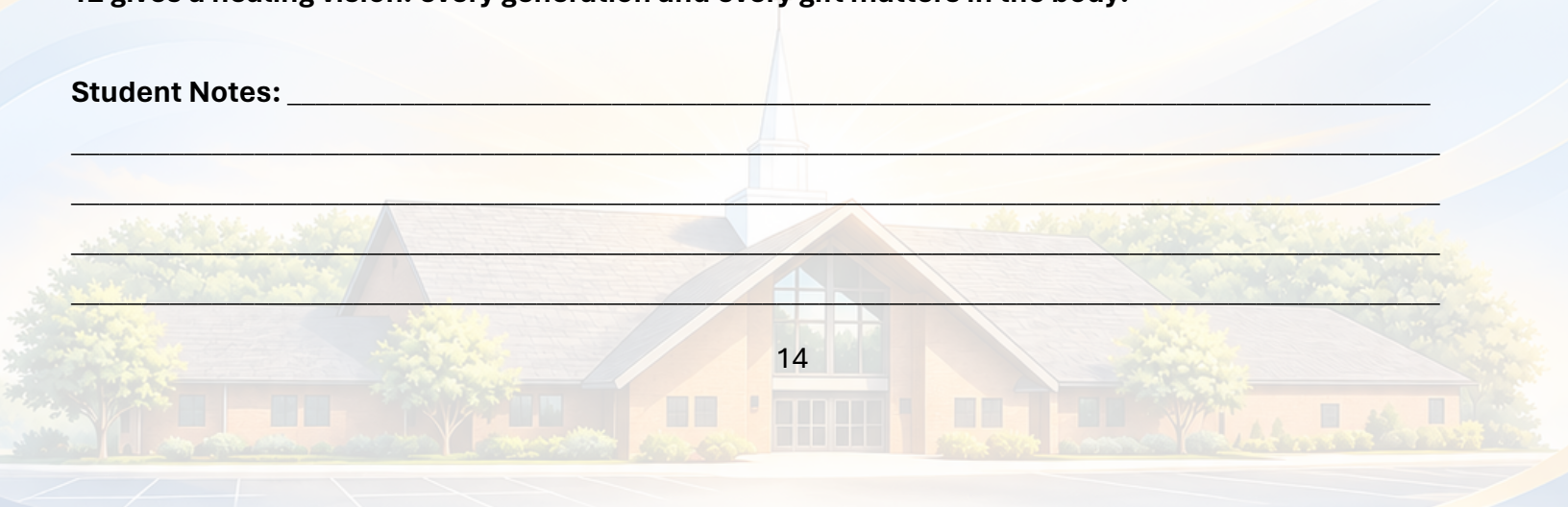
**God forms isolated individuals into a responsible community. Church membership means: I belong to Christ, I belong to this body, I need others, others need me, and my gift is for edification.**

**Student Reflection:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### CONTEMPORARY BAPTIST CHURCH CONNECTION

**Many Black churches face generational tension: elders may feel forgotten, young adults may feel unheard, middle-aged adults may feel overworked, and teens may feel disconnected. 1 Corinthians 12 gives a healing vision: every generation and every gift matters in the body.**

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**1. What are signs that a church is acting more like an audience than a body?**

---

---

---

---

---

**2. Why do some members feel unnecessary or unseen?**

---

---

---

---

---

**3. How can pride damage the body of Christ?**

---

---

---

---

---

**4. How can generational division weaken the church's mission?**

---

---

---

---

---

**5. What would it look like for our church to suffer together and rejoice together more faithfully?**

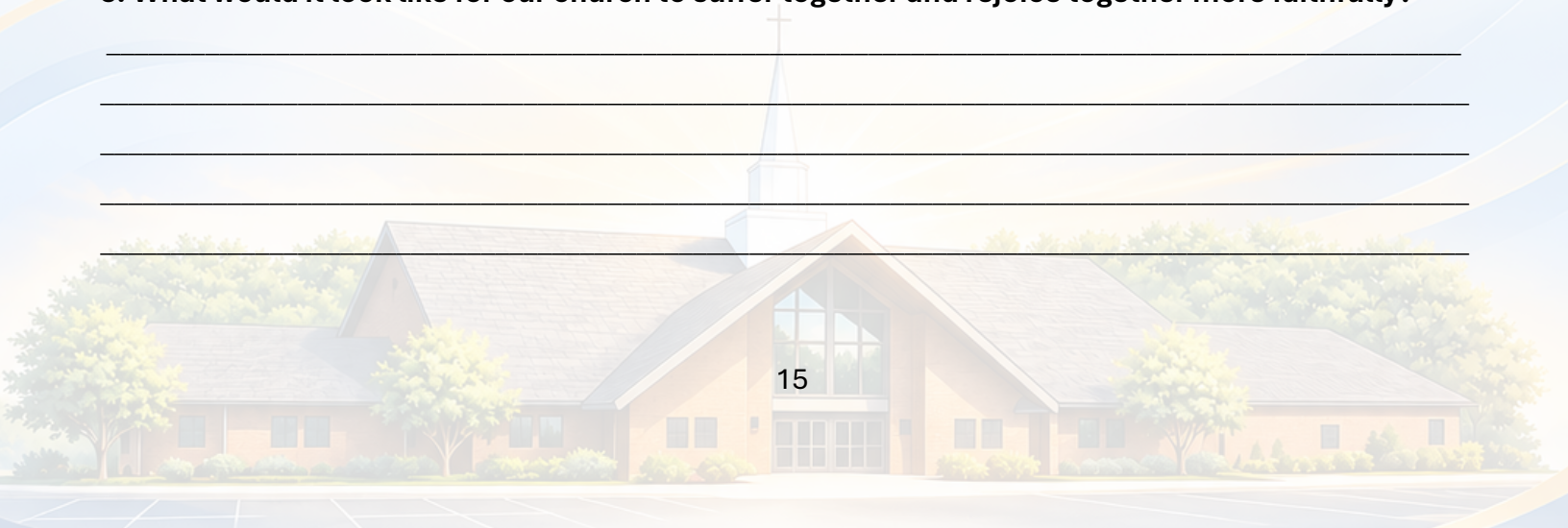
---

---

---

---

---



## SMALL GROUP WORK / EXERCISE

### Body Mapping for Church Ministry

Groups list body parts and connect them to church ministry.

**Eyes:**

---

---

**Hands:**

---

---

**Feet:**

---

---

**Ears:**

---

---

**Mouth:**

---

---

**Heart:**

---

---

**Backbone:**

---

---

**Now discuss:** Which parts are strong in our church?

---

---

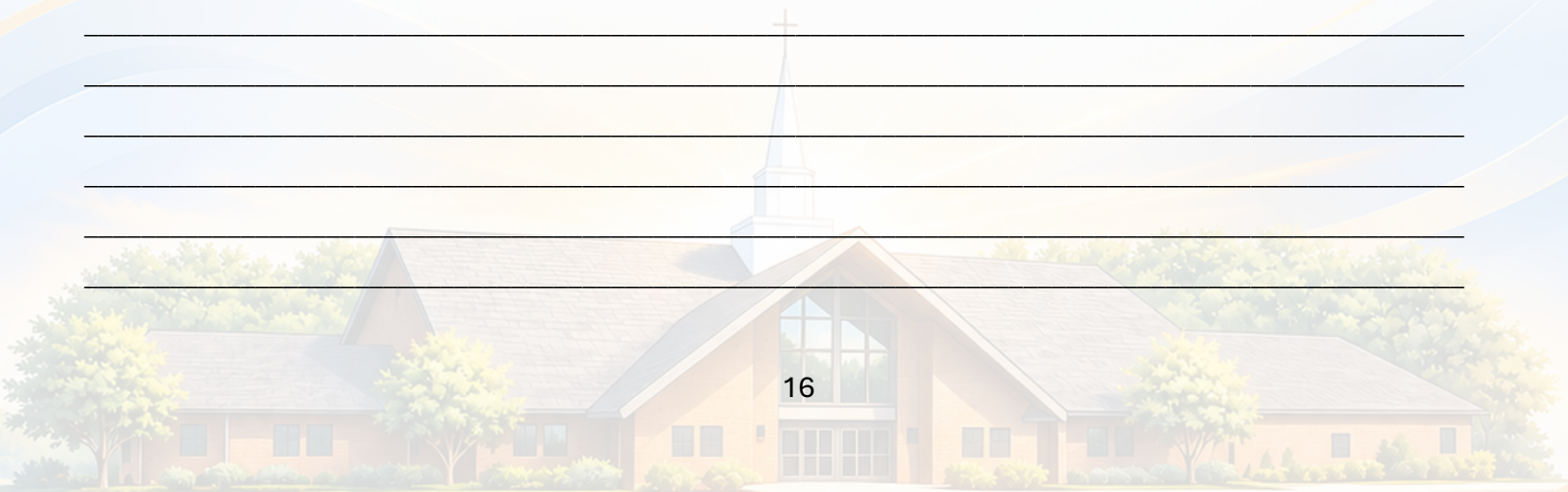
---

---

---

---

---



**Which parts are weak or need strengthening?**

---

---

**Which parts are overlooked?**

---

---

**What is one way we can honor hidden service?**

---

---

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**Lord, make us one body. Heal pride, insecurity, comparison, and neglect. Help every member know they matter and serve faithfully. Amen.**



**All In Means Daily Formation: Practicing the Way of Jesus Together**

**Primary Scripture Passage:** Acts 2:42-47, ESV

**Lesson Introduction:** Acts 2 shows us that the Spirit-filled church was not just excited; it was devoted. The early believers continued steadfastly in teaching, fellowship, breaking bread, and prayer. Their life together became a witness to the community.

This lesson reminds us that spiritual formation is not only what we learn; it is what we practice together. A church becomes spiritually healthy through repeated practices that form belief, belonging, dependence, compassion, joy, and mission.

**Lesson Aim:** To understand that a spiritually formed church is shaped by repeated practices: Word, fellowship, table life, prayer, generosity, worship, and witness.

**Read the Primary Passage:** Acts 2:42-47, ESV

**Notes from the Scripture Reading:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**INTO THE WORD: KEY POINTS AND KEY WORDS**

**Key Word 1:** Mercies (Greek: oiktirmoi)

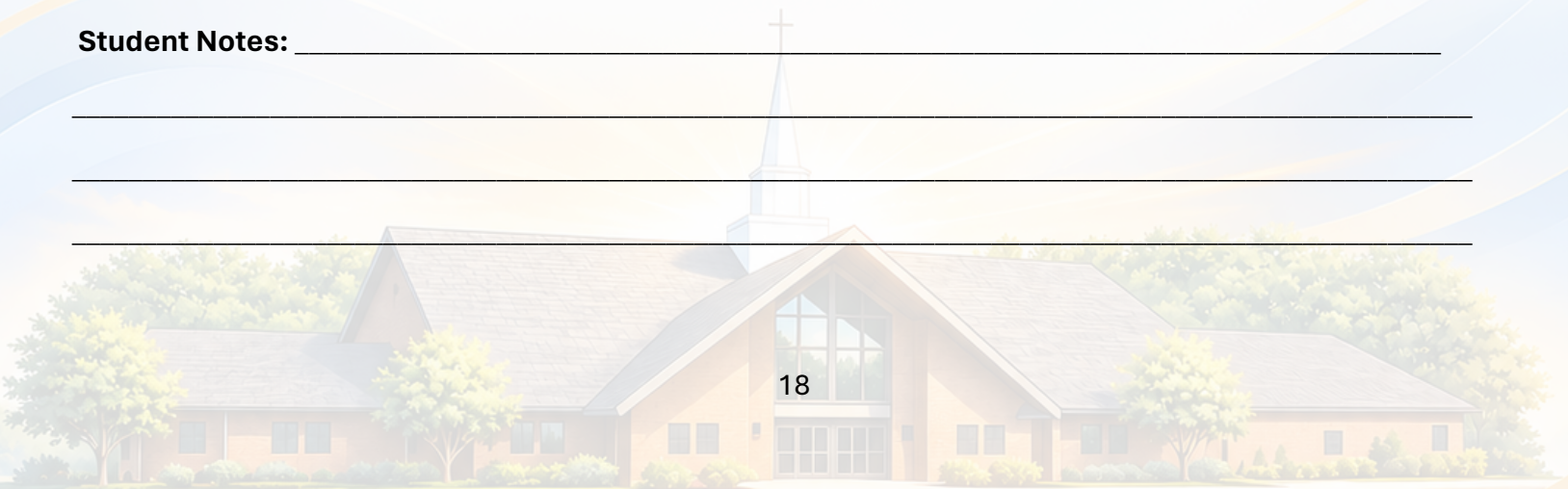
**Definition:** This word refers to God’s compassion, pity, and covenant kindness. In Romans, the appeal to live holy lives is grounded in grace already given, not in an attempt to earn God’s acceptance.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---



**Key Word 2: Teaching (Greek: didache)**

**Definition:** Instruction in the apostolic witness concerning Christ, His resurrection, His commands, and His kingdom. Teaching forms doctrine, imagination, ethics, and mission.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 3: Fellowship (Greek: koinonia)**

**Definition:** Shared participation in Christ that creates partnership, mutual care, generosity, and spiritual belonging. It is deeper than friendliness or socializing.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 4: Breaking of Bread (Greek: klasis tou artou)**

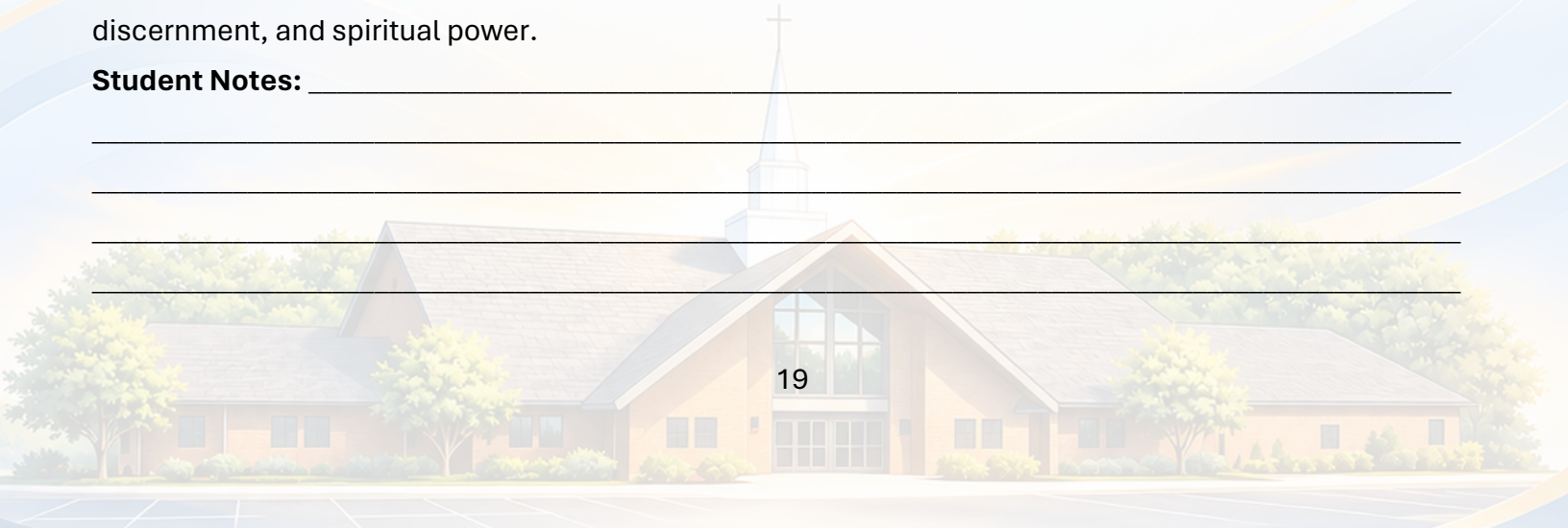
**Definition:** Likely includes shared meals and the Lord’s Supper within the worshiping community. It signifies remembrance, hospitality, and table fellowship.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 5: Prayers (Greek: proseuchai)**

**Definition:** The gathered and ongoing prayer life of the church. Prayer forms dependence, humility, discernment, and spiritual power.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Key Word 6:** Awe (Greek: phobos)

**Definition:** A reverent fear or holy wonder produced by God’s activity. The church did not reduce God to routine.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 7:** Gladness (Greek: agalliasis)

**Definition:** Deep joy and exultation. This joy is communal and rooted in God’s saving work, not in perfect circumstances.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 8:** Favor (Greek: charis)

**Definition:** Grace, goodwill, or favorable regard. The church’s communal life created a credible witness before the people.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

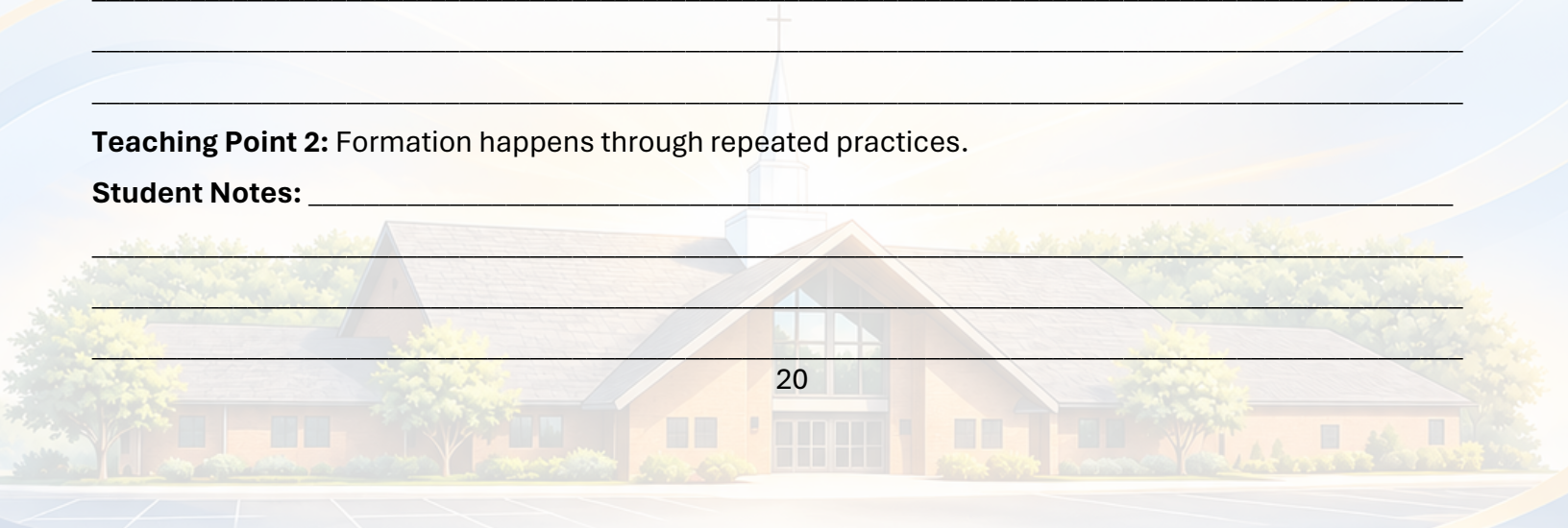
### EXPOSITORY TEACHING POINTS

**Teaching Point 1:** The Spirit-filled church is a devoted church.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Teaching Point 2:** Formation happens through repeated practices.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Teaching Point 3:** Generosity is a sign of Spirit-shaped community.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Teaching Point 4:** The church lived gathered and scattered.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

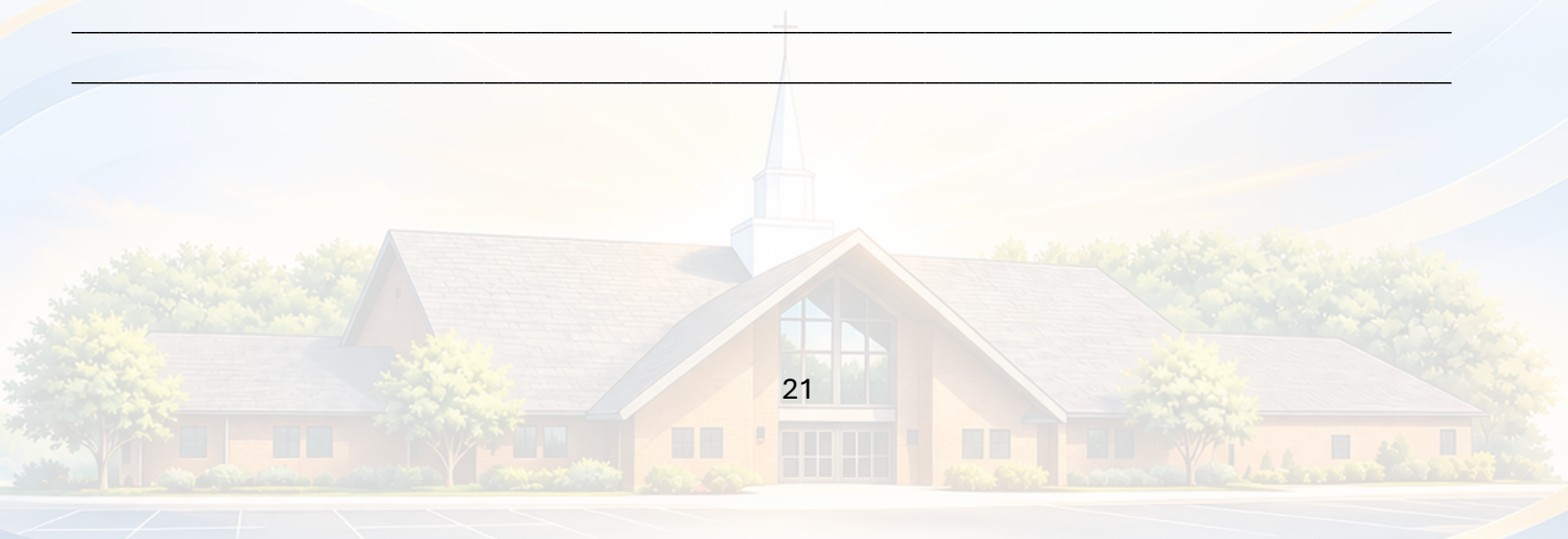
**Teaching Point 5:** Witness flowed from communal life.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### **SPIRITUAL FORMATION FOCUS**

**Spiritual formation is not only what we learn; it is what we practice together. Teaching forms belief. Fellowship forms belonging. Prayer forms dependence. Generosity forms compassion. Worship forms joy. Witness forms mission.**

**Student Reflection:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# CONTEMPORARY BAPTIST CHURCH CONNECTION

In a lonely, fractured, expensive, and anxious America, the Black Baptist church can become a Spirit-formed community of belonging and care. Many people need more than a service to attend; they need a people who will pray, feed, mentor, visit, teach, correct, celebrate, and walk with them.

Student Notes: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Discussion Questions

1. Which practice in Acts 2 does our church do well?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Which practice needs renewal: teaching, fellowship, prayer, generosity, hospitality, or witness?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Why is it dangerous to separate worship from community?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. How can the church practice generosity during economic pressure?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. What would make our church's life more compelling to the surrounding community?

---

---

---

---

---

**SMALL GROUP WORK / EXERCISE**

**Acts 2 Church Practice Audit**

Rate each area from 1 to 5.

1 means "needs serious attention."

5 means "strong and healthy."

Teaching: \_\_\_\_\_

Fellowship: \_\_\_\_\_

Prayer: \_\_\_\_\_

Generosity: \_\_\_\_\_

Hospitality: \_\_\_\_\_

Unity: \_\_\_\_\_

Witness: \_\_\_\_\_

Care for needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Joy in worship: \_\_\_\_\_

Community credibility: \_\_\_\_\_



**Now discuss:**

**What is one area we should strengthen in the next 30 days?**

---

---

**What is one practical step we can take?**

---

---

**Who needs to be involved?**

---

---

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**Lord, make us a devoted church. Form us through Your Word, fellowship, prayer, generosity, worship, and witness. Let our life together point people to Jesus. Amen.**



**WEEK 5– WEDNESDAY, June 3, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.**

**All In for the Long Run:** Abiding, Pruning, and Bearing Fruit

**Primary Scripture Passage:** John 15:1-11, ESV

**Lesson Introduction:** Many believers know how to stay busy. Many churches know how to keep calendars full. But Jesus calls His disciples to something deeper than activity. He calls us to fruitfulness.

John 15 teaches that fruitful ministry cannot be sustained by guilt, personality, adrenaline, tradition, or church history. Lasting fruit comes from abiding in Christ. The branch must remain connected to the vine.

**Lesson Aim:** To understand that lasting spiritual formation comes from abiding in Christ, receiving the Father’s pruning, and bearing fruit that glorifies God.

**Read the Primary Passage:** John 15:1-11, ESV

**Notes from the Scripture Reading:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**INTO THE WORD: KEY POINTS AND KEY WORDS**

**Key Word 1:** True Vine (Greek: ampelos alethine)

**Definition:** Jesus identifies Himself as the genuine source of covenant life and fruitfulness. In the Old Testament, Israel is often pictured as a vine; Jesus fulfills what God intended His people to be.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 2:** Vinedresser (Greek: georgos)

**Definition:** The Father is the gardener or farmer who tends the vine. Spiritual formation is under the Father’s wise and loving care.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 3:** Branch (Greek: klema)

**Definition:** The disciple is one who derives life and fruitfulness from Christ. A branch has no independent life apart from the vine.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 4:** Abide (Greek: meno)

**Definition:** To remain, dwell, continue, stay, and make one's home. Abiding is ongoing communion, dependence, obedience, and attachment to Christ.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 5:** Prune (Greek: kathairo)

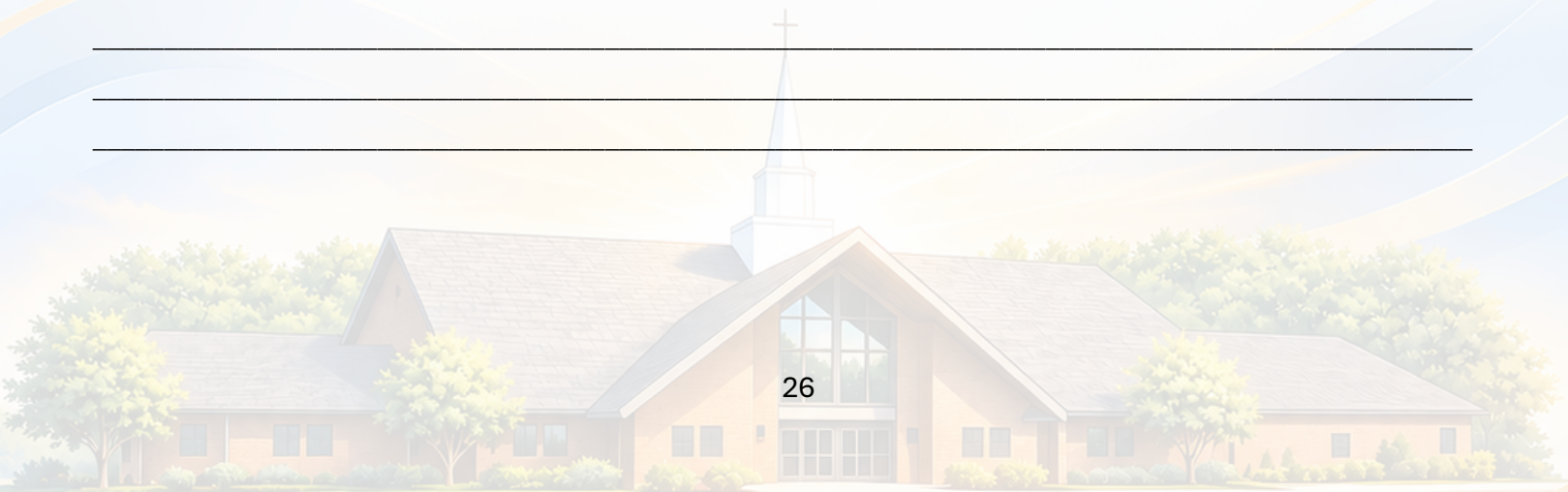
**Definition:** To cleanse or cut back for greater fruitfulness. Pruning is not mere punishment; it is the Father's formative work removing what hinders growth.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Key Word 6:** Fruit (Greek: karpos)

**Definition:** The visible result of life in Christ: love, obedience, character, witness, holiness, justice, mercy, endurance, and disciples made.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Key Word 7:** Joy (Greek: chara)

**Definition:** A deep gladness rooted in communion with Christ, not dependent on ideal circumstances.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**EXPOSITORY TEACHING POINTS**

**Teaching Point 1:** Jesus is the source, not merely the example.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Teaching Point 2:** Pruning is painful but purposeful.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Teaching Point 3:** Abiding is the alternative to burnout.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

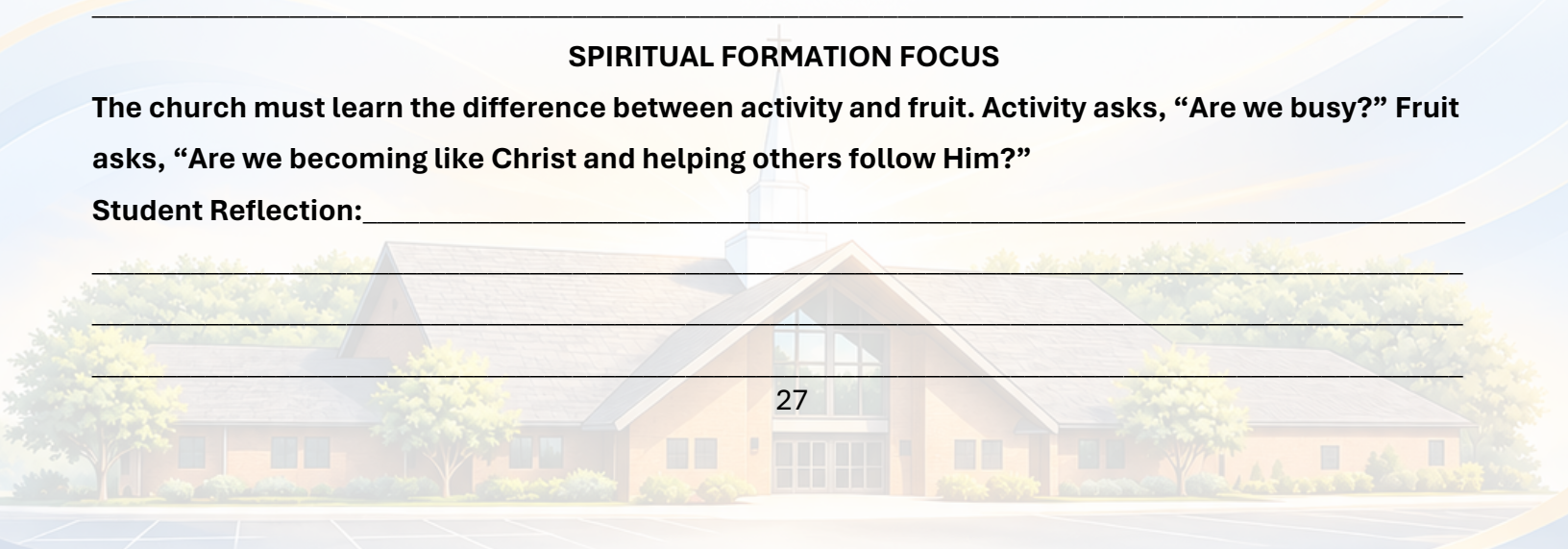
**Teaching Point 4:** Fruitfulness glorifies the Father.

**Student Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**SPIRITUAL FORMATION FOCUS**

**The church must learn the difference between activity and fruit. Activity asks, “Are we busy?” Fruit asks, “Are we becoming like Christ and helping others follow Him?”**

**Student Reflection:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# CONTEMPORARY BAPTIST CHURCH CONNECTION

Many believers are exhausted by work, grief, caregiving, community burdens, racism, violence, and church responsibilities. John 15 reminds us that ministry cannot be sustained by adrenaline, guilt, personality, or history. We must abide in Christ.

Student Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Discussion Questions

1. What is the difference between being busy and bearing fruit?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What might God need to prune from our lives or church culture?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. How do we know when we are trying to serve without abiding?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

4. How can the church practice generosity during economic pressure?

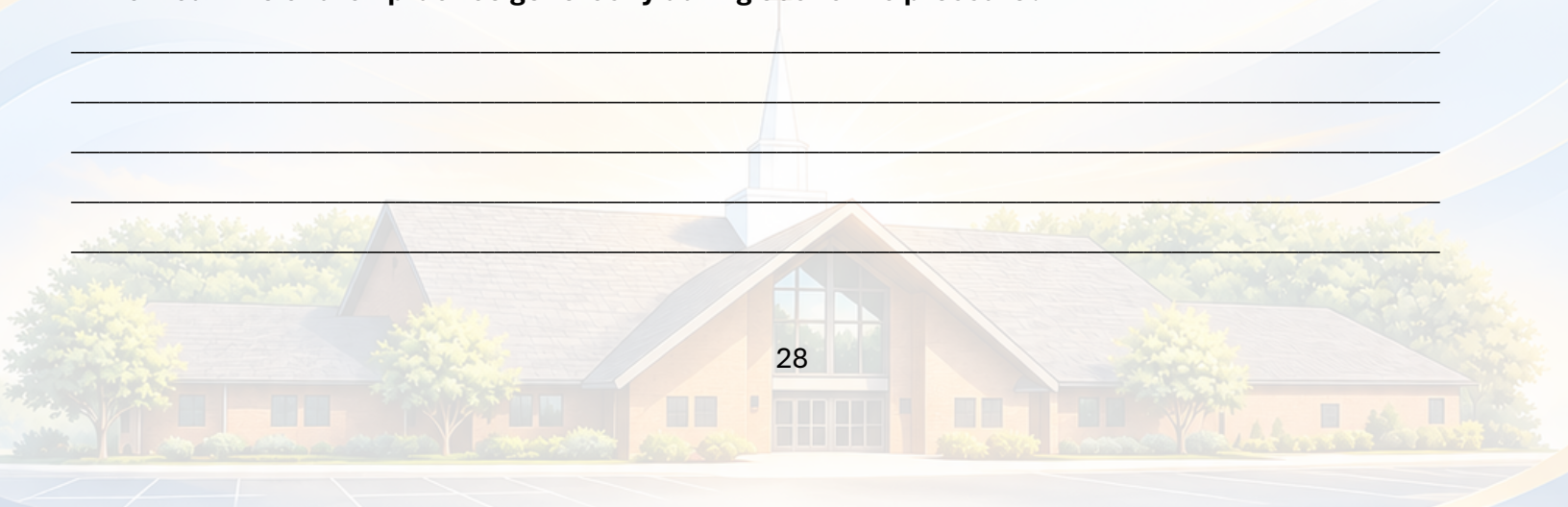
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



**5. How do we know when we are trying to serve without abiding?**

---

---

---

---

---

**SMALL GROUP WORK / EXERCISE**

**Fruitfulness Reflection**

**What fruit do we see in our church?**

---

---

**What fruit do we need more of?**

---

---

**What practices help us abide in Christ?**

---

---

**What distractions pull us away from abiding?**

---

---

**Complete this sentence:** Lord, help me abide by.....

---

---

**CLOSING PRAYER**

**Lord Jesus, You are the true vine. Keep us connected to You. Prune what hinders us. Make us fruitful for Your glory and fill us with Your joy. Amen.**



## MONTHLY REFLECTION AND COMMITMENT

After completing this study, take time to reflect on what God is forming in you.

1. One truth I learned about God this month:

---

---

2. One area where God is forming my heart:

---

---

3. One area where my mind needs renewal:

---

---

4. One way I need to serve the body of Christ:

---

---

5. One spiritual practice I need to continue after this study:

---

---

6. One way I can help build up the church:

---

---

7. One way I can help strengthen our witness in the community:

---

---

### CLOSING COMMITMENT

I want to be All In with God.

I want my heart to love Him.

I want my mind to be renewed by Him.

I want my life to be formed by Him.

I want my gifts to serve His church.

I want my witness to bless my community.

I want my church to be stronger because I am faithful.

With God's help, I am All In.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

