

SERMON NOTES



This week's sermon  
**Get Out of the Stands and into the Game**  
**Ephesians 4:15-16**

Church is not a spectator sport; building the Church is the job of all of us.

Jesus is glorified in your growth. And so you build the Church by building up yourself.

Jesus is glorified when a sinner comes to salvation. And so you build the Church by living out and speaking the truth in love.

Jesus is glorified when His Body, the Church, is united. And so you build the Church by being united with the church.

Love is the only thing that will make this work.

## Digging Deeper into the Message

*<sup>20</sup> “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, <sup>21</sup> that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. <sup>22</sup> The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, <sup>23</sup> I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. <sup>24</sup> Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. <sup>25</sup> O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. <sup>26</sup> I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”*  
-John 17:20-26

1. Jesus is praying for all believers. What is his request in verse 21? Why does he ask for this (also in verse 21)?
2. How will we accomplish this (verses 22-23)?
3. How did Jesus “get” us (verse 24)?
4. Who made His name known to us, according to verse 26? So then, who is responsible for our salvation, according to verses 24 and 26?
5. Isn't it amazing that Jesus was praying for you (if you're a believer) right before he died! Look up the rest of the chapter (John 17) and list some of his requests for us that stick out to you.

## Community Group

### ICEBREAKER:

- ❖ In what ways do we tend to approach church as consumers (shopping for a church)?

### QUESTIONS:

- ❖ Read the first point on the MAP. What is the difference between being a fan at Harvest and being part of the team?
- ❖ Read Ephesians 4:15-16?
  - In verse 15 – What is “rather” referring to?
  - What are we supposed to do instead, as we speak the truth in love?
  - How can we “grow up” into Christ?
- ❖ Read the second point on the MAP. What are some practical ways you can build yourself up?
- ❖ Read the last three points on the MAP. Are there any Christians that you aren't living in peace with today? How can you fix that?
- ❖ Which ministries of Harvest do you like?
- ❖ How can you help to keep building these ministries up?
- ❖ Are there any ministries that you would like to see more of at Harvest?
- ❖ Is it possible that God is calling you to begin serving at Harvest? Where can you plug in and begin serving to help accomplish the vision to Increase the Health and Size of God's Church Everywhere?
- ❖ Read John 21:15-19.
  - Why do you think Jesus asks Peter the question three times?
  - What do verses 18-19 mean?
  - Can you think of anyone else in Scripture who learned about how they would die beforehand?
  - Why do you think Jesus told Peter how he would die?
- ❖ If time, review the Digging Deeper portion of the MAP.

**APPLICATION:** This week, ask God to give you more love for Jesus and that this love will spur you on in the good work of building the Church.