

conversation week 4 guide.

bottom line: your family is bigger than you think.

materials needed:

- whiteboard & marker (provided)
- larger family tree sheet (provided)

hear from God through His Word.

do this: as a group, read through Acts 2:42-47 as a group and make a list of all the characteristics of the early church community.

- tell your students to open their Bibles to Acts 2:42-47. have one student read through the passage one time out loud and then have a different student read it again.
- **ask:** *why do you think people refer to the church as a family?*
- using the whiteboard from your tub, ask your students to list out the things that made the early church a community. write down what they say on the whiteboard.

do this: as a group, read through 1 Peter 3:8-12 as a group and make a list of all the ways we should treat each other according to this passage.

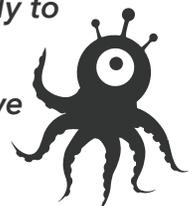
- tell your students to open their Bibles to 1 Peter 3:8-12. have one student read through the passage one time out loud and then have a different student read it again.
- using the whiteboard from your tub, ask your students to list out all the ways that we should treat each other according to this passage. write down what they say on the whiteboard.

say this:
every follower of Jesus is part of a huge extended family that will spend eternity together in heaven. so, we should get in the habit now of treating others like this passage says we should! let's start by treating everyone in our group like this!

talk with others about our faith.

do this: lead your group in a discussion using the following questions.

- **ask:** *what are some things that make a church family special?*
- **ask:** *what are some similarities between your family and your church family?*
- **ask:** *has there been a time when people from church have felt like family to you? tell us about that.*
- **ask:** *what are some ways that our life group can be like the community we read about in Acts 2?*



do this: get your students thinking and talking about who they consider to be family using the “larger family tree” sheets provided in your series kit.

- give each of your students a “larger family tree” sheet and tell them to start by filling in all the members of their immediate family on the tree.
- then, tell them to add people to their tree who aren’t technically members of their family but they consider to be part of their family.
- go around your group and give each student an opportunity to share their larger family tree with the group if they feel comfortable.

pray by talking to God.

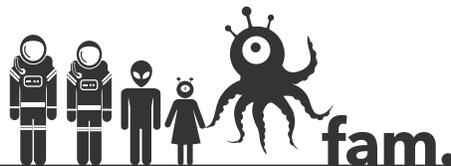
do this: lead your students in a time of prayer for each other.

- ask each of your students to share a prayer request they have for themselves. tell them to save any requests they have for other people, school, pets, etc. for after group.
- pray together as a group by going around and having each student pray out loud for the person on their right. start with someone to the right of one of the leaders so you can go last and close the prayer time.

live in a way that honors God.

do this: give your students the following live challenges for this week.

- **challenge:** take your larger family tree home and put it somewhere where you will see it every day. take some time each day this week to pray for the people you consider family.
- **challenge:** do something encouraging for each person on your tree this week. write them a note, send them a text, call them, do something kind for them, etc.



memory verse

“but to all who believed Him and accepted Him,
He gave the right to become children of God.”

John 1:12