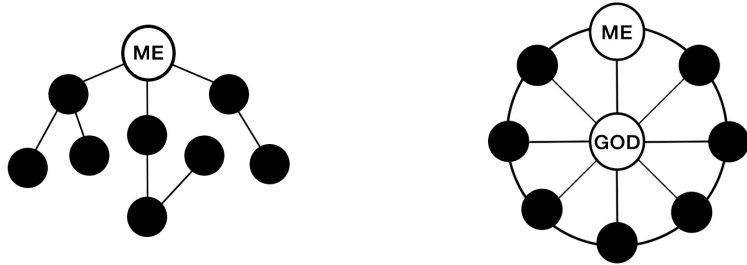


AIDS CARE

APPETIZER – Degrees of Separation



DINE IN – Independence vs. Interdependence

The family of God lives integrated and interdependent, not isolated and independent from one another.

God	Followers of Jesus	References
True Vine	branches	John 15:5-12
Chief Cornerstone	living stones	1 Corinthians 3:11 Ephesians 2:19-22 1 Peter 2:4-8
The Head	the body	Romans 12:3-5 1 Corinthians 12:12-27 Ephesians 4:15-16
King	citizens	Ephesians 2:19 Philippians 3:20 – 4:1
Father	children	Galatians 3:26 – 4:7 1 John 3:1

Living in Solidarity

Romans 12:9-13

“Love is the verb of solidarity. Solidarity is the virtue and the practice underlying the commandment to love one’s neighbour as oneself.”

~ Alison Gelder

TAKE OUT – What will love look like this year?

As a child of God I am connected to others as family. Rather than living independently, Jesus asks me to live interdependently by abiding in him and loving my brothers and sisters.

I will stand with them in their suffering.
I will offer my compassion and give generously.
I will learn from, pray for and celebrate with them.

AIDS CARE 2014

- Talk with God about how you will participate.
- Organize yourself, family, home church, workplace, neighbours
- Learn about the 14 MCC projects we are partnering with
 - themeetinghouse.com/mcc – pics, reports, updates
 - Put the MCC Country Prayer cards on your fridge
- Attend an EXCHANGE EVENT. Connect with our African friends.
 - themeetinghouse.com/exchange
- Invite an Africa Learning Team member to your home church.
- Simplify, fast, reflect, learn, pray - do something different
- Assemble kits and cards – collection date, Sunday, March 23
- Consider applying for Africa Learning Team- due February 28
 - themeetinghouse.com/africalearningteam
- Pray that God will use this season to transform us
themeetinghouse.com/aidscares
for shopping list, FAQs, tips & tricks

CONCLUSION– God at the Centre

“...and we find our privilege eroded by your purpose,
our competence shaken by your future,
our entitlement unsettled by your other children.
Give us the grace to hear your promises.
Give us freedom to trust your promises.
Give us patience to wait and
humility to yield our dreamed future to your large purpose.”
~ Walter Bruggemann, from *Prayers for a Privileged People*



facebook.com/themeetinghousechurch



@theMeetingHouse
@Bruxy



The Bible App by Lifechurch.tv
Get teaching notes at
“Live” and search “Oakville”



Get our App!
road.ie/meetinghouse

HOME CHURCH QUESTIONS

HANGOUT [Warming Up to the Topic]

1. 6 Degrees of Separation. Have two people each pick one random movie star or singer/band and see many degrees they're separated from each other. Or pick an actor and see how they are connected to Kevin Bacon himself!
2. What team or cause or group of people do you enjoy aligning yourself with? How do you show your alignment (your solidarity)?

HEAR [Listening to God through Scripture]

3. Recap the message. What stood out to you the most and why?
4. Read through one passage from each section from the chart in the DINE IN section. Which of the five images do you think captures the idea of interdependence on God and others best? Why?
5. As you reflect on **1 Corinthians 12:12-27**, what are some insights you have about standing in solidarity with others? What impact does this have on how you will actively love others?
6. The AIDS Care season is a very tangible and practical way for us to stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters. As a group:
 - a. Discuss how your home church can participate. Find out what's happened in the past, and any new ideas to achieve your goals. Questions? FAQs at themeetinghouse.com/aidscares.
 - b. How can AIDS Care be more meaningful for you this year? Brainstorm some ideas about how you can practice solidarity and love in new ways.
 - c. Before the evening ends, be sure you have a plan in place! The AIDS Care season ends with the collection on March 23, 2014.
 - d. Be sure to pray together as a group for the MCC staff, their partners, the home-based care workers and clients who use AIDS Kits, the Exchange team, the UNDERGROUND and kidmax kids and their AIDS Care efforts, and that God would use this season to transform us.

HUDDLE [Making It Personal and Praying Together]

7. Discuss the places in your life where you find it easier to base your identity on other connections (family, school, career, nationality, etc.), rather than having God at the centre. Why do you think that is? What could you do to help change that?
8. What are some of your dreams for the future? How much are those dreams aligned with God's bigger picture and solidarity with others? Are there any places where you see a need to recalibrate and align with God's envisioned future?
9. Discuss how you can support and pray for each other to this end.

Sunday, February 2/9, 2014 || [Christa Hesselink](#)
[@chesselink](#) || [#TMHAidsCare](#)

QUOTES

Through Adam we inherited alienation and a lack of solidarity with God, with nature and with one another, but in Christ we discover a solidarity of reconciliation and new life.

– John Sentamu, Archbishop of York

Solidarity presumes the priority of the life of all over the appropriation of goods by a few. It presumes the creation of a new mindset which thinks in terms of community.

– Pope Francis

Ubuntu is the African philosophical sense to mean, "the belief in a universal bond of sharing that connects all humanity."

It means my humanity is caught up and is inextricably bound up in theirs. We belong in a bundle of life. A person is a person through other people. It is not: 'I think therefore I am.' It says rather: 'I am human because I belong.'

– Archbishop Desmond Tutu

The Gospel of Jesus Christ tells us that in God's economy, the overflow of riches happens where the need is greatest; where human dignity is most obscured, grace blazes out in excessive and extravagant ways to remedy the balance.

– Rowen Williams

"I don't believe in charity. I believe in solidarity. Charity is so vertical. It goes from the top to the bottom. Solidarity is horizontal. It respects the other person. I have a lot to learn from other people."

— Eduardo Galeano

The great symphony of reconciliation composed on Calvary needed to be copied out into orchestral parts for all the world to play.

– N.T. Wright

"Keep a clear eye toward life's end. Do not forget your purpose and destiny as God's creature. What you are in his sight is what you are and nothing more. Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received – fading symbols of honor, trappings of power – but only what you have given: a full heart enriched by honest service, love, sacrifice and courage."

– Francis of Assisi