



REASSEMBLY REQUIRED

06.18

CHURCH
COMMUNITY

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to week three of *Reassembly Required*! Pastor Jesse helped us unpack our relationship with the church and how we might go about fixing the broken parts by evaluating our expectations, community, and engagement.

DISCUSSION

1. Pastor Jesse shared a study from the Barna research group revealing pastors (typically) have a different set of priorities and expectations than their church people, which can be a great recipe for conflict. What's your experience with someone who has a different set of priorities than you? How do you typically navigate a relationship like that?
2. **Revisit and read Matthew 22:34-40 & Ephesians 4:11-16.** The church will only be healthy when both its leaders and members fulfill all the expectations God laid out for it in Scripture. For example, these two passages show how "growth" and "reach" build health together. Which of these do you tend to lean into first? How could you see your starting point help drive the other?
3. **Revisit and read Matthew 18:12-14 & Romans 12:9-16.** There are a variety of ways people can become "dechurched" – no longer connected to a church community. Do have someone in your Little Iowa who falls into this category? Does your heart long for them to be connected again? How can you love them practically where they are?
4. What does your engagement with church currently look like? Do you feel a sense of connection and community? Why or why not? What step has really made the most difference for you in the past? What step do you think may help you reassemble or grow your relationship with the church community even more? What questions or curiosities do you have about it?

APPLICATION

- **Pray** for God to give you his heart for dechurched people in your life - those disconnected from church community.
- **Pay attention.** As you spend time with your Little Iowa, listen for their hearts. Learn to identify their hopes, dreams, hurts, and disappointments. The better you know them, the more you can practically love them (and display Jesus' love to them).
- **Take a step.** Everyone has an opportunity on the horizon to grow in community and connection. If you feel disconnected, reach out to your PLC campus or do some research on [our website](#) to find an opportunity that's right for you. If you feel like you're "in" and known, how can you create that same feeling for someone else?