# REFLECTION GUIDE

8.20.23

## INTRO

Scripture has the power to change our life for the better. We each read it with our unique minds and apply it to our unique circumstances. When we find that we interpret scripture differently than others, love must guide our discussions!

## THOUGHTS

## PRAYER

Precious Jesus, the more I study about your life and what matters to you, the more I am changed. Thank you for the ways you continually nudge me to grow in knowledge and wisdom. Help me to remain humble about what I think I know and to respect the way you created those who think differently than I do. Amen.

## DIGGING DEEPER

- When you hear the term *Bible study*, do you associate it with a certain feeling?

- Describe a time when something you read in the Bible made a difference in your life.

- In Colossians 3:16, we find wise instruction for the church. "Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives. Teach and counsel each other with all the wisdom he gives. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs to God with thankful hearts." [NLT]
  - What stands out most to you about this passage?
  - What is our primary source for discovering the wisdom Christ gives?
  - In this season of life, how would you say that you are allowing the "message about Christ" to fill your life?

- When we begin to dive into interpreting scripture, our own reason and experience will contribute to our understanding of its meaning. Why is that an important consideration when discussing our differences in theology with others?

- Earlier in Colossians chapter 3, we read, "Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony. And let the peace that comes from Christ rule in your hearts. For as members of one body you are called to live in peace. And always be thankful." [Col 3:14-15, NLT]
  - Have you ever experienced disharmony within the church? What was the root cause?
  - When we disagree on scripture, how might we seek and achieve peace despite our different interpretations?