

# Home Group Questions

The week of 11/12/17

Romans 12:15-18

## BEYOND SUPERFICIAL

### GETTING STARTED...

This past Sunday, Pastor Mel continued his series on the book of Romans. This week, the passage he spoke on highlighted the traits found in believers who are committed to going beyond the superficial in their relationships with one another.

### LOOKING IN THE WORD...

**1. Read Romans 12:15-18.** Pastor Mel focused on this passage and traits that are found in a body of believers who are truly doing life together and connecting with one another at a deeper level. Read over his definition of “superficial” below and his action items to move past superficiality. Why do people prefer superficiality in their relationships with others in the church? What are the risks or moving beyond superficiality? What are some other things you can do to connect with people in a deeper manner that are not covered in these verses?

#### “SUPERFICIAL” defined:

*A strategy of living which avoids connecting and sharing with others in the church. It often takes in but rarely gives out to others thereby robbing that person of the “abundant life” and fellowship that each Christian is meant to experience.*

**Action 1:** Increase your empathy when it comes to the hurts and joys of others. Romans 12:15

**Action 2:** Live in a way that connects your gifts and abilities for the betterment of all. (“Harmony”) Romans 12:16a

**Action 3:** Discover the surprising ways God can use unlikely people to impact your life. Romans 12:16b

**Action 4:** Never be dragged down by what others are doing around you. Romans 12:17a

**Action 5:** Be committed to building a testimony and legacy in your life. Romans 12:17b-18

**2. Read Colossians 3:12-18.** Discuss this passage and these qualities as compared to those in Romans. The passage highlights that if anyone “has a complaint” with another person, they are to forgive. What’s the difference between going through a process of reconciliation that leads to forgiveness....and then simply forgiving? What kind of situations may need a loving confrontation in order to bring about relational healing...and what kind of situations can you simply forgive and move on without working through a loving confrontational process?

**3. Check out this chart:** Relating meaningfully to others is essential in moving beyond superficiality in our fellowship with one another but how do these other factors contribute to a deeper fellowship within a church body of believers.



### MOVING FORWARD...

Share prayer requests with one another remembering that this time is essential in deepening our relationships with one another and truly caring for one another. Pray for the empathy and discipline to pray faithfully for one another beyond this night!