# **Participants Homework**

For the week of February 7-11-22

LOVE NEVER ENDS: BEING THE BODY OF CHRIST

HOLD FIRMLY

**GATHERING: GETTING TO KNOW YOU** 

In groups of two or three, respond to the following, "When was the first time you heard the 'good news'?"

### **GROWING: GOING DEEPER**

Reflecting on the message: **Hold Firmly** that Pastor Tim shared with us.

#### Read 1 Corinthians 15:1-11.

- Paul reminds his readers "of the good news" that he proclaimed to them. Work as a
  group to define "good news." What makes this news good? What clues does Paul give in
  this passage about how he understands the "good news"? [Verses 3-4 point out Jesus'
  death for sins; it happened according to Scripture or in line with what God had been
  doing with the covenant community; and the resurrection, etc.]
- Christians often speak about when they were "saved" or having been "saved." Here Paul
  notes that we "are being saved." Why is the way Paul puts it so important? [It speaks to
  the ongoing nature of the saving relationship we have with God. Our salvation is a gift we
  are living into more than a declaration about our destination.]
- How does thinking about salvation as ongoing reassuring? [God does not give up on us.
   God desires to continue growing us in grace.]
- What might be the significance of Paul noting he is the "least of the apostles" (v. 9)?
- How many times does Paul use the word "grace" in verse 10? [3] How does Paul's emphasis on grace go with his note that he "worked harder than any of them"?

• How is God's grace the source of empowerment and Paul's credential for being an apostle?

# **GOING: TAKING IT HOME**

- What does it mean to hold firmly to Christ?
- What difference would it make in your life if you were more mindful of God's grace empowering all you were doing?

# Memorization Verse

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

1 Corinthians 15:1-2

Prayer	Req	uests:
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**Sending Prayer:** Empowering God of the cross and Resurrection, we give thanks that you do not give up on us or leave us alone. We are grateful and amazed that you continue to desire to work in and through your people, so that all might experience the abundant life that comes through you. Help us to hold fast to your grace and love in all that we say and do. We pray this in the mighty and powerful name of Jesus. Amen.



## **Growth Group Community Service Project**

We ask every group to take on at least one service project a year (the ideal is two) and to have at least one social gathering (potluck) per half a year. Please consider with your group members of what community service you'd like to participate in. There is a project list made by our church that you can join in and outside the church.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup> Rev. Dr. Derek Weber, Love Never Ends: Well Pleased, Discipleship Ministries, Nashville