

# SKI JUMP

## Discussion Notes

### K IS FOR KONNEKT

Mat started with the statement "If you don't sacrifice you don't get community."

- What does this mean to you?
- Do you agree?

Mat explained that some things in life are meant to be experienced in community and the Christian faith is one of these things.

- What role does community play in your faith?
- When are we tempted to take the community aspect out of our faith?

Read through Ephesians 2:14-22 together. This is a really rich passage so you might want to just spend sometime reflecting on it individually and come together to talk about it.

Paul talks about barriers that divide us. In Paul's day these included whether you were Jewish or Gentile, man or woman, slave or free amongst many other things.

- What are the barriers that separate us from connecting with each other today within the church? Are there examples where you feel like you've experienced barriers within the community of Metro?
- What are the barriers that separate us who call ourselves Christians from people who aren't part of a church?

Mat then explained that Paul's vision of our new community in Christ means that we are joined together, built together and become a dwelling together.

### JOINED TOGETHER

The idea that in God's new community we are joined together goes against consumer Christianity. We can so often think about faith as what we get out of it, but actually when you are joined as a whole body with other people you have to think about others before yourself.

- Mat spoke about God telling him he needed to 'get over himself' and think about the whole body he was joined to. Have you experienced this, where you realise that you are being selfish in your faith?
- How does community and being joined together challenge this attitude?

### BUILT TOGETHER

As well as being joined together, we are building together and joining in what God is doing. We don't just exist in community for the sake of it, but to build to something greater.

- What are we as a community building towards? (Either Metro as a whole or your Hub.)
- Mat shared that this building process requires sacrifice. An obvious way this could look is the sacrifices we make as we build our church with two services. How might you have to sacrifice to grow our community?
- Part of this sacrifice is being committed to our Hub community. How can we encourage each other to be more committed to our Hub?

## BECOME A DWELLING

The Bible explain that as a community we become a 'dwelling place' where God lives - just as God dwelt in the Temple in the Old Testament, we are now together a 'temple'; 'a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.'

- What does this mean for us to be a 'dwelling place' for God? What does that actually look like?
- What difference would it make for our life as a church if we actually lived this out?

Mat shared the importance of remembering why we want to grow as a community and why we are starting the 5pm service: it is to make space at the table for people who don't think church is for them, for people who don't know Jesus and don't think they could belong to a church community.

- How can we make sure we are doing this? What can we together do to make sure that we are making space for people who aren't yet a part of our community?
- Part of this is acknowledging that there is a difference between community and friendship. We don't want to just be an inward looking friendship group but a community that is welcoming new people. How can we make sure we are continuing to grow in depth of friendship whilst been more than just that?