**Q100. What is the universal Church?**

The universal Church is all the members of the body of Christ, made up of people from all times and around the world. It is all who are called out of darkness, regenerated, and set apart by God’s saving grace. It is all the genuine believers in Jesus.

1. What is the difference between the universal Church and the local church?
2. Take 5 min right now to pray for the church around the world. Share any news that you have heard about how the church around the world is suffering and pray for those things.
3. According to 1st Corinthians 12:25-27, why did we just pray for the church around the world? What else are we supposed to do?
4. Go around the group at your table and discuss different ways we can make sure that we are loving the universal Church? Be specific and enjoy the brainstorm session, it would be great to hear some of your thoughts!
5. Read Galatians 3:27-29. What is the significance of being heirs of Abraham according to the promise? Spend some time flushing out this passage. Have you ever misunderstood this verse? In what ways? What does it mean to neither Jew nor Greek? Etc…
6. Throughout human history, have there been multiple ways that the universal Church is saved? We know that we are saved by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus alone. Is that how people during Old Testament times were saved?
7. How do the truths of tonight’s lecture affect the way we do life with others of diverse walks of life and ethnicities? Have you done this well or are there areas of your life where repentance is needed? Work through this as a group.
8. In light of the reality that there are so many unreached peoples in our world, do you see a need to be proactive and on mission? Why or why not?
9. Read 2 Peter 3:1-10. According to this passage, why has Jesus not returned yet? Why is this important for the universal Church?
10. In light of tonight’s lecture, what views about the universal Church do you need to change. What questions or confusion do you still have?

*Final Application and Takeaways:*

1. How can I grow in my worship of God and His ways?
2. How can I teach these things to family, friends, and coworkers?
3. How can I honor and glorify God based on these truths?
4. As a group, talk about how you can point each other to who God is this week.

**\*\*Close in a time of prayer focused on exultation and praise and thankfulness for who God is and His grace.**