



## Week 5 – May 21, 2023 Sermon

Please review these  
questions and write your  
answers prior to attending

your Life Group meeting. The sermon manuscript and  
these questions can be accessed each week at  
[saintmatthiasoakdale.com/lifegrouphisweek](http://saintmatthiasoakdale.com/lifegrouphisweek)

### Getting to Know One Another

1. What are you grateful for or struggling to be grateful for this week?

2. Share about one of the more unlikely or consequential friendships you've had in your life or just about a favorite memory with a friend (which can be an animal).

### Into The Sermon

3. Do you agree that serving God tends to be more emphasized in the Church's teaching than being God's friend? If so, why do you think that is?

4. The sermon later suggested that serving God by serving others is easier than interpersonally loving others in grace & truth, which can require creativity, imagination, and inventiveness. If we are seeking to live on mission, how might we balance the priorities of service vs love?

5. This sermon was a continuation on the passage where Jesus compares us to vines and himself to a vineyard [or branches and vine ;)]. Does this passage or sermon fill out your vision for how to live out that metaphor or what it's mean to be like?

6. Based on John 5:19, the sermon suggested that "during his earthly ministry, Jesus wasn't just winging it. Rather, Jesus was discerning what the Father was already up to and then participating, Jesus was taking a role in it." It was then suggested that we are meant to operate similarly.

a. What, if anything, feels exciting about that?

b. What, if anything, feels challenging about that?

7. Toward the end, the sermon talked about loving even our enemies in such a way that we anticipate them becoming our friends. How does that spark your imagination for loving the people who are hardest to imagine loving?

8. Re-read (or re-sing!) the Response Hymn, "Help Us Accept Each Other," re-printed on the back of the sermon manuscript and then do a or b or both.

a. What line of the hymn is the core of your prayer for yourself? Or was there anything about the hymn that surprised you?

b. Give a shot at writing a verse yourself based on the sermon or passage or your biggest take-aways from either.

### One-Sentence Prayers

9. Do you have any prayer requests for one sentence prayers?