# Session 9: Looking and Acting Like Jesus – Together

### Focus Prayer

Before you begin your reflection time, offer this prayer or the words of your own heart.

God, give me ears to hear, eyes to see, and a heart to know your love through my time here today. Amen.

#### **Core Theme**

Community covenant – We gather, covenant, and commit to support and bless each other in the power of the Spirit, not just for a program but for a season and even for life. This is the only way we can hope to live and love like Jesus in everyday life. What we do in small groups supports our faithful living as individuals, members of congregations, and members of society.

## Scripture: John 14:15-21

"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

In a journal or with a partner, explore the following:

- In the passage from John 14:15-21, what do you notice about what Jesus says and does? Why do you imagine this stood out to you?
- What difference does having an intentional covenant and commitment make if you're trying to live like Jesus and be centered on him?
- Share your rule of life with a friend or loved one this week, or connect with a member of your Small Group outside of your gathering time to share your rules with each other.
- How does the Holy Spirit guide or empower you to live what you've laid out?
- How can followers of Jesus gather, support, and bless each other to be centered in Jesus in all parts of their lives? What would it look like for your group to do that going ahead?

# Closing Prayer

Close your reflection time with prayer, either with these words or your own.



Thank you for placing me within a committed community and guiding me in the way of love. Amen.

