

Who Has Your Pledge?

The Big Questions:

- Who are the people of God?
- Who has your pledge?

Break the Ice:

- **In the Same Boat**
 - Say: *All of us have more in common than we realize. Let's find out what you have in common with other people in this group. I'll call off a category, and you find your people.*
 - Call off one category at a time. When the time is right, move to the next category.
 - *Find people who have the same birth month you have.*
 - *Of breakfast, lunch, and dinner, which is your favorite meal? Find people who share your favorite meal.*
 - *Find people who share your eye color.*
 - *Find people who like your kind of music.*
 - *Find people who share your favorite holiday.*
 - *Find people who share your favorite hobby.*
 - *Find people who share your favorite season of the year.*

Look at the Book:

- Say: *The New Testament outlines different roles for the church and for the nation (government). And the New Testament makes clear the idea of a world-wide church—that God's people in all nations are one. Let's read more about this in the Bible.*
- Distribute the handout: **Look at the Book** (attached).
- Say: *I will read the regular print, and you read the bold print together.*
- Invite participants to probe the passages in pairs or small groups.

Interact:

- **Many Rolls Or One Loaf**
 - Display one loaf of bread (unsliced) on one table and dinner rolls spread out on another table.
 - **Round 1:** For one minute, have participants work alone to make the longest list they can of how the one loaf of bread shows the church more accurately than the separated dinner rolls.

Supplies:

- One loaf of bread (unsliced)
- Dinner rolls
- Index card per participant
- Writing instruments

Copies:

- **Look at the Book**
- **See You in Heaven (1 copy)**

- **Round 2:** For one minute, have participants share their ideas with a partner and add more ideas to their lists.
 - **Round 3:** For the last minute, have one pair join another pair (total of four people) to share ideas. Have this group choose one idea to share with the entire group.
- **See You in Heaven**
 - Say: *You are about to hear a story about what happened when two Christians from opposing countries met on the battlefield. As you listen to this, write on your index card a question you would like to discuss with a small group.*
 - Read aloud to the group the story: See You in Heaven (attached).
 - Invite participants to discuss their questions in small groups.
 - Possible concluding comments:
 - Militarism can cause you to forget your spiritual values.
 - You can forget you are shooting a Christian brother or sister (or someone who still needs Jesus).
 - You can forget that Jesus is in this person and that what you do to other people, you also do to Jesus.

Pray:

- Ask participants to review the lesson scriptures and to star one way they would like to pray for the church and one way they would like to pray for the nation.
- Lead a prayer time inviting sentence prayers from participants.