



# CHUCK KNOWS CHURCH

## The Committee: Resurrection

*This group study is designed for a 45-60 minute discussion after viewing the film.*

All Chuck Knows Church videos can be viewed and downloaded at:  
**[www.ChuckKnowsChurch.com](http://www.ChuckKnowsChurch.com)**

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### Introduction:

*The Committee* is a humorous and poignant online series that examines the struggles congregations face as they look toward a preferred future. Using real-world topics, *The Committee* is sure to open discussion in your congregation.

The series follows Park Grove Community Church, a make-believe urban U.S. congregation, that has lost its pastor and is closing its doors unless it reinvents itself. Park Grove is faced with a difficult decision. It seemingly has tried everything humanly possible. Should it close? Things are so bad that a retired pastor didn't show up to help decide the congregation's future – so it's up to the last remaining members to discover it for themselves.

Although some of the characters and situations are simplified to accommodate the format, they may feel familiar. Your congregation may not be facing closure, may have a wonderful pastor, and be a vital and growing church. However, all congregations face the issues addressed in *The Committee* at some point.

Have an open conversation about the issues covered in the series.

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### Chuck Knows Church Resources

**Website:** [www.ChuckKnowsChurch.com](http://www.ChuckKnowsChurch.com)

**Discipleship Ministries Website:** [www.UMCdiscipleship.org](http://www.UMCdiscipleship.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/ChuckKnowsChurch](http://www.facebook.com/ChuckKnowsChurch)

**Twitter:** @ChuckKnows

**Instagram:** ChuckKnowsChurch

Suggest ways on Twitter to save Park Grove. Use this Hashtag **#SaveParkGrove**

- > Watch *The Committee: Resurrection* (15 minutes)
- > Starters (15 minutes)

Throughout *The Committee* series, Park Grove has been wrestling with concerns about its future. Now after praying, dreaming, and learning together, the church is they are ready for a new start. In Rev. Heath’s opening statement, she says, “Its time for us as a church to no longer survive; its time for us to thrive.” What do you think is the difference between surviving and thriving?

Surviving	Thriving

**Discuss with one or two people, and then share with the whole group:**

- How long can a person live in a survival mode? A congregation?
- What is the difference in attitude between surviving and thriving?
- What signs of thriving do you see in your congregation?

- > **Iron Sharpens Iron** (15 minutes)

As Mr. Riley and Chuck are talking, Mr. Riley says, “As iron sharpens iron...” Chuck completes it by saying, “So one person sharpens another.” Beyond the buildings, the finances, the worship, community service, and fellowship, the vitality of a church is based on the nature of its relationships - the relationships people have with one another and their relationship to God through their faith in Jesus Christ. As you reflect on the series, think about how each character has changed.



**Mrs. Beasley:**



**Mr. Riley:**



**Chuck:**

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**Daniel Sanchez:**

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**Hanna:**

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**Glenda:**

**Discuss with three or four people, and then share with the whole group:**

- Which character represents who you are?
- How are you developing your relationships in your congregation?
- How has “The Committee” helped you see positive ways your faith community can move forward?

**> Reflection on the Bible (20 minutes)**

**Ask a member of your group to read aloud the following passage from Romans 12:4-18 (NRSV). Ask another person to read the “Background.”**

*For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.*

*Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.*

*Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.*

## **Background:**

This passage lifts up a primary principle of church life - to be successful, we need one another. Each of us has spiritual gifts, talents, and abilities that make us unique. But we need others for these gifts to bear fruit. We are encouraged to “let love be genuine” to “love one another with mutual affection” and to “outdo one another in showing honor.” In perhaps one of the most profound passages of Scripture, we are given a powerful sense of what it means to be truly connected to a faith community, “rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.”

## **Questions for Discussion:**

If your group has more than seven members, divide into groups of four to discuss the Scripture passage.

- How do you help people recognize and live out God’s call for their lives?
- How do you show appreciation toward people who give in ways both large and small in your ministry?
- What does it mean to “rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.”

## **> Making It Personal**

Just before worship, Hannah and Daniel reflected on all the work they had done to get ready for the reboot of Park Grove. Daniel says, “This community was ready for a change. All you and I did was to embrace it.” Later when they are sitting on a couch in the newly designed “Thrive Fellowship Room,” Daniel says, “It isn’t up to us though.” Hannah replies, “Its God’s church.”

- What does this say about the ministry of your church?
- In what way is God speaking to you this day?