



**NOVEMBER'S THEME  
BRANDED**

**SCRIPTURE** 1 Cor. 3:1-9

**BOTTOM LINE** Our brand is unified

**MEMORY VERSES** John 6:11-12

**LIFE APP** Together we can do more



• Tonight we will start differently. The kids will be held in the hallway outside of the sanctuary, then brought in for an exercise that shows our unity in Christ. Students will also be encouraged to join faith clubs at their school. Make sure that you give them time to sign up after worship.

**MY GOAL FOR THE NIGHT:**



This month we will work through a series called "Branded." The heart of this series is that everything and everyone has a brand that they are known for. It is the association people make when they experience them. What about the church? What is our brand identity? This week we'll look at one aspect of our brand; that we are unified. Since the beginning of the church, Christians have struggled with maintaining unity. That is why one of the lessons that we have had to hear over and over again is that we are all unified in our faith in Jesus. We have the same issues today. Christians are divided over issues, beliefs, and experiences but if we are to be truly effective in our witness, we must be unified.

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

- What did you think of the opening exercise in worship tonight? In what ways was it surprising or thought provoking? Are you normally aware of these types of differences among your peers? If you were not able to be in worship or if you are an early group, watch this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jD8tjhVO1Tc>
- What do you think people think of when they think of Christians? What do you think of when you think of Christians? What is our "brand"?
- READ: 1 Cor. 3:1-9. Have you ever been in a situation where you and another person wanted to take the credit for something you didn't really do? Did this divide you and the other person? Let's say that you and someone else on a team wanted to take the credit for a crucial play when the play was actually called by the coach. Does it make sense for the two of you to argue? Why or why not?
- If you were the only Christian in the world, what would you say is the brand you inspire? Is it a brand of unity or is it something else?
- Prince of Peace has decided that the way it wants to live out being unified is by saying that we are "called to connect." We want to be the connecting church that draws different people and organizations together. How have you seen that done? Can you think of some events you've been to that have included other churches or organizations? How did those events seem different than events we do on our own? What kinds of partnerships could you see us forming in the future?

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# EXTRAS

## YARN WEB

**What You Need:** Spool of Yarn, balloon or ball-pit ball

**What you Do:** Have the group stand in a circle. Give each participant a situation card. Make a loop in the end of the yarn or string and hold it. Toss the ball of yarn to someone across the circle (*it will unwind as it goes*). Have that person loop the yarn around a finger, then toss the ball to someone else in the circle. Each person, in turn, should catch the ball of yarn, loop it around a finger, and then toss it to someone else. As the ball unwinds, it creates a web of interconnection. It's okay for people to get the ball more than once. Continue until everyone has gotten the ball at least once and the web is nicely filled in (*or you run out of yarn, whichever comes first*). The web-building has ended, play with the web a bit. Have people move it up and down. You could even drop an inflated balloon or ball-pit ball onto the web and bounce it around. Experiment with what happens if one person pulls strongly on the yarn he or she holds. Next invite someone to let go of the yarn. Watch what happens to the web. Then have someone across the circle from the first person let go of the yarn. One by one, have random people around the circle let go of the yarn. The web will gradually lose shape, form, connection, and life. When the web is lying on the floor, ask everyone to sit down and discuss what has occurred.

**Debrief Questions:**

- When the web was created and we were playing with it, in what ways was it like the dynamic community of humanity?
- What happened to the web when the first person let go of the yarn? The next person? How is that like what happens when people are excluded from a community?
- As more and more people dropped the yarn, what happened to the web? How did this affect its usefulness (*or playfulness*)?
- What lesson for community living could you draw from this exercise?

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# JUST FOR FUN

## HELIUM HOOP

**What You Need:** Hula Hoop

**What You Do:** Have your group stand around the hula hoop. Balancing the hoop on the middle of their index finger, they must work as a group to lower the hoop to the ground evenly. The trick is that their finger must maintain contact with the bottom of the hoop at all times. Hands must stay parallel with the ground and participants cannot hook the hoop/pole.

**Facilitator Note:** The beauty of this game is its simplicity. In order to maintain contact with the hula hoop, participants will try to push up on the hula hoop which causes the hoop to rise (*as if filled with helium*) instead of being lowered to the ground. With trust, communication, and strategy the group will be successful in finding balance together!

**Goal:** Teamwork!