



COLLABORATIVE DISCIPLESHIP

2 Cultivate

Unity in the Body of Christ

1 Connect

Summary Tough believers in Christ have differing perspectives, values, gifts, passions, and personalities; God has called us to be unified in the faith.

Read Ephesians 4:1-16 and ask the following questions:

- 1 What do you like about this passage?
- 2 What do you find uncomfortable or difficult to understand in this passage?
- 3 What appears to be the main idea emphasized in this passage? (Look for repeated words or ideas.)

Consider how the following passages increase our understanding of this topic:

A Read John 17:20-23 (Jesus speaking)

- 1 In your own words, describe Jesus' desire for oneness and unity among believers?
- 2 How might our pursuit of unity benefit our relationships with everyone in the Body of Christ?
- 3 How does unity in the Body of Christ influence those who don't know God?

B Read James 2:1-10

- 1 In your own words, describe the radical nature of God's call for believers in Christ to be unified?
- 2 Who are the Christians you find easy to look down on or look up to?
- 3 In regards to unity, what reputation do Christians have in our community?

- 4 What are the beliefs and values promoted in these passages?
- 5 What do they reveal about our human condition and God's response?
- 6 How are these beliefs and values similar or different from those that have influenced you? (such as your family, culture, peers, church, etc.)
- 7 How might our faith increase and our lives change as we embrace what is true and important?
- 8 In light of what we've discussed, how can we pray for each other right now?

Share about a difficult relationship you had with someone which later became a very good relationship.

3 Care

Since we last met, what happened as a result of expressing Christ's love to others?

How can you, or we, express Christ's love to others this week?

Here are a few ideas:

Pray God would meet their deepest needs.

Help meet a felt need they have.

Encourage them with a text, note or verbally.

Give them a thoughtful gift or buy them coffee.

Invite them to do something fun or meaningful.

Listen to their story.

Explore their thoughts on the gospel.