

Joy in Preserving Unity Philippians 2:1-4

What distinguishes Christian unity from the world's sense of "team" or "community", or esprit de corps is the active presence of the _____ in each of us. This is where Christian unity begins.

Discussion 1. Sometimes church relationships don't look any different than the world's relationships. But when we get it right, they're WAY different. What difference do you believe the Holy Spirit makes in Christian relationships?

Among Christ followers, like-mindedness, accord, and having the same love do not mean we agree with each other all the time. They mean that, because of the work of the Holy Spirit, we are communicating and working from the same _____.

Discussion 2. To you, what does it mean to disagree without being disagreeable? Describe a relationship in your life where you often do not see eye to eye but there is mutual love, respect, and deep listening.

What is missing in our public discourse these days is genuine humility and deep listening. In the secular world, that is easy to explain, but among Christ followers it is inexcusable. Spirit-filled, Christian relationships are grounded in _____.

Discussion 3. There is a difference between false humility and Spirit-filled humility? How would you spot the difference? Under what circumstances do you find it most difficult to feel genuine humility?

Something powerful happens when a person switches from concern about his/her own interests to caring for the _____ of _____. Christ followers should be making that switch more and more as they mature.

Discussion 4. When you gather for church (either in person or on Zoom) what do those who are outwardly focused on others look like? How do you recognize them? What would it take for you to become one of them?

Discussion 5. How does this lesson cause you to pray? How does it prepare your heart for worship?