

Life Group Discussion Questions: Nov. 5th 2017

“ONE but not THE SAME”

Primary Scripture:

Eph. 4:1 ...Here's what I want you to do. While I'm locked up here, a prisoner for the Master, I want you to get out there and walk—better yet, run!—on the road God called you to travel. I don't want any of you sitting around on your hands. I don't want anyone strolling off, down some path that goes nowhere. ² And mark that you do this with humility and discipline—not in fits and starts, but steadily, pouring yourselves out for each other in acts of love, ³ alert at noticing differences and quick at mending fences.

Eph. 4:4 You were all called to travel on the same road and in the same direction, so stay together, both outwardly and inwardly. ⁵ You have one Master, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who rules over all, works through all, and is present in all. Everything you are and think and do is permeated with Oneness.

Eph. 4:7 But that doesn't mean you should all look and speak and act the same. Out of the generosity of Christ, each of us is given our own gift.

Secondary Scripture:

1Cor. 12:12 Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body,^a so it is with Christ.^b ¹³ For we were all baptized^a by^a one Spirit^b so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free^c—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.^d ¹⁴ Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.^a

...If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? ...If they were all one part, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many parts, but one body.^a

Discussion Questions:

- After reading the scripture above, what do you think is the main point Paul is trying to instill in his friends in Ephesus and Corinth?
- When have you seen a unified church in action? What was the result? How were people effected? What impact did it have on the community?
- What are some challenges that interfere with church or small group unity? How can we, or have we overcome them?
- What part does courage play in keeping unity amongst diverse thoughts, backgrounds and beliefs?
- There is a temptation to avoid conflict by building small groups based on similarities rather than differences. What is lost when this happens? Are we guilty of doing this?
- If we were to use Paul's body analogy what part or responsibility does each person play in this group?