

Ephesians 4:1-3 NIV

I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

“The Key to Community is _____.”

“The Key to Unity is _____.”

TO PRODUCE SPIRITUAL MATURITY & REDUCE RELATIONAL CONFLICT...

1. REPLACE _____ WITH _____

What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill. You covet but you cannot get what you want, so you quarrel and fight. You do not have because you do not ask God. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. (James 4:1-3 NIV)

They came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan—the one you testified about—look, he is baptizing, and everyone is going to him.” (John 3:26 NIV)

“He must become greater; I must become less.” (John 3:30 NIV)

“Pride leads to conflict.” (Proverbs 13:10 NLT)

2. REPLACE _____ WITH _____

That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” (James 4:6 NIV)

Humility is ...

- ▶ authenticity
- ▶ being honest about my weaknesses
- ▶ being able to ask for help
- ▶ a sign of maturity
- ▶ being willing to admit my mistakes
- ▶ other-centered

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up. (James 4:10 NIV)

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue acknowledge that **Jesus Christ is Lord**, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:5-11 NIV)