

Life Group Discussion Questions • Oct 6, 2019

1. Opener (Optional): Have everyone share their name and one of their favorite family traditions (from the past or present).
2. Read **Ephesians 4:1-3**. How do the attributes listed in verse 2 help us achieve the goal (command) in verse 3?
3. What was the connection between Mary learning of her miraculous pregnancy in Luke 1:39-41 and Paul's command regarding unity in the church in **Ephesians 4:3**? Hint: Mary shows us the type of *urgency* that Paul is talking about. Do you think many Christians view the pursuit of unity within the church with that same urgency? *Why or why not?*
4. **Ephesians 4:14-16** talks extensively about the benefits of a united church. Ask a volunteer to read **Ecclesiastes 4:9-12**. Between those two passages, what do you see as the top benefits from living in close community with other disciples of Jesus?
5. The theme passage for our renewed emphasis on Life Groups is **1 Thessalonians 2:8**. Read the larger context of that passage—**1 Thessalonians 2:7-12**—and work together as a
6. Using this **1 Thessalonians 2** passage as a guide, spend some time discussing what Christian community is supposed to look like when everything goes according to plan. Do you think
7. How does this quote relate to the sermon and Bible passages we've read so far?

“Satan always hates Christian fellowship; it is his policy to keep Christians apart. Anything which can divide saints from one another he delights in. He attaches far more importance to godly intercourse than we do. Since union is strength, he does his best to promote separation.”

—Jonathan Edwards

8. The second half of **Ephesians 4** talked about unity killers. Which of these actions, attitudes or behaviors are the biggest temptations for you personally?
9. After listening to the message this morning and/or reading through the passages from this Life Group, what is one thing that you feel God calling you to do, think, or believe differently after hearing his Word?