



September 21 – 22
Lesson 1

Be of the Same Mind

This Discussion Guide should be used the week following the sermon it supplements, but members can still interact even if they missed the sermon. To use this guide in your Community Group, try to work through the questions on your own before you meet. You might not get to all of the questions, and that's okay. If your Community Group does not meet one week, walk through the guide on your own so that you can stay in sync with the series.

MAIN TEXT: Romans 15:5-6;
Philippians 2:1-11

SUMMARY: To kick off our “One Another” series on how to be the church with one another and not just do church, we will dive into being of the same mind to one another. What does this mean and why does it matter?

Just a reminder, while the “one another” passages do encourage us to move inward in community with one another, it doesn't happen without moving upward toward God, and it always moves us outward to the lost around us!

GETTING STARTED

Watch the video together with the corresponding guide and answer the following question below:

1. Why is unity and harmony so hard to keep? In our family? In the workplace? In our small group and church?

DISCUSSING THE WORD

1. Read Romans 15:1-6. In verse 5, Paul encourages the church in Rome to “live in such harmony with one another.” Why does Paul point out about God being “the God of endurance and encouragement” in this desire of his? Why do you think he brings this up and how does this encourage you?
2. According to verses 1 and 2, how are we live in harmony with one another?
3. Jump over to Philippians 2:1-11 and read another passage on unity. Verse 2 says to be “of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.” How do verses 3-4 practically flesh this out how to do this?
4. How does the example of Jesus in verse 5 - 11 give you even a better picture to what verses 3-4?

RESPONDING TO GOD

1. What people in your life do you need more “harmony” or “unity” with? What disrupts harmony and unity?
2. How can you work towards unity as a Community Group? What reminders do you need to set up for yourselves to keep you centered on Jesus?
3. How can you include the unsaved to experience the community you have in your Community Group?

OTHER THOUGHTS

Read John 17 in your devotional time with God and meditate on God's love for you and for bringing you into the unity of the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

TAKING YOUR NEXT STEP

The following below is something that you will work together on as a Community Group for the weeks ahead to help with answering the last question on the previous page: *How can you include the unsaved to experience the community you have in your Community Group?*

Follow these directions:

1. Have each person think of 2 unsaved friends. Write them down on a piece of paper and commit to pray for their salvation.
2. Go around the room and share with your group the 2 unsaved friends that you wrote down.
3. Decide as a group which unsaved friend you would all like to pursue with either one of the following 3 things:
 - a. **Is there a need? Then fill it.** (*Ex. Yardwork is difficult for a single mom.*)
 - b. **Is there a hurt? Then heal it.** (*Ex. A neighbor's spouse passed away and you make meals for the neighbor for a week*)
 - c. **Is there a common interest? Then do it.** (*Ex. A friend likes board games, so you get together for a game night!*)
4. Start planning the details together as a group and just focus on 1 or 2 unsaved people at a time. Let them see your love that you have as a group and the love Jesus has for them!