

DISTINGUISH

STUDY GUIDE | MAY 1, 2022

UNITY-IN-DIVERSITY

THE POINTS FROM THIS WEEK'S MESSAGE WERE:

- Tearing down walls.
- The hard work of unity.
- Diversity of gifts and service.

LET'S TALK

1. What impacted you the most from this week's message?
2. Our society is deeply divided and the pandemic has only served to exacerbate this. What are some ways you've noticed this? How has our polarized world impacted you?
3. Pastor John Stott says,
How dare we build walls of partition in the one and only human community in which [Christ] has destroyed them? To deliberately perpetuate these barriers in the church, and to even tolerate them without taking any active steps to overcome them in order to demonstrate the trans-cultural unity of God's new society, is to set ourselves against the reconciling work of Christ, and even to undo it.

How does God's call for the church to tear down walls of separation and be a sign of unity speak to you right now?
4. Pastor Steve suggests that the absence of conflict can be a sign that we haven't invested enough in building relationships to rub each other the wrong way. How does this change the way you view conflict? What are some ways you can go "deeper" in your relationships with others, including your small group members?
5. It's easy to be disillusioned with community when we have a "wish dream." Pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer describes this as an idealized picture of what community should be. How might God be working to shatter your wish dream so that you can learn to love people and community as they are (and not as you wish them to be)?
6. Romans 12:18 says, "Do all that you can to live in peace with everyone." Is there someone God is calling you to live in peace with? What step can you take this week to move towards that?

LET'S PRAY: Spend some time in prayer (for each other, for our community and for the world).

This resource and additional study guides are available at cornerstonechurch.ca/sermons
For more group resources including icebreakers, group activities, serving and other meeting ideas, visit cornerstonechurch.ca/onlinegroupideas
