

PART 1: Different but Unified

DATE: 11-07-2021

## START

We naturally group ourselves into groups based upon our interests, hobbies, personalities and our cultural preferences. What happens though when what makes us different starts to breed hate and bitterness between us? The beauty of the gathered church is that we all come from different walks of life, yet we unify around Jesus.

- What differences have caused you to distance yourself from other people?
- How can you aside those differences to point people to Jesus?

## READ

[Ephesians 4:2-3](#) (NIV)

“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.”

## THINK

The apostle Paul knew differences would arise in the church he started. These churches were filled with Jew and gentiles, two groups that didn't particularly get along with one another. However, they both were welcomed and called to follow Jesus. So Paul outlines 4 qualities to be lived out; humility, gentleness, patience, and love.

- How do you usually approach people you have significant disagreements with?
- What quality do you need to lean into more in your life?
- How can you show patience to those you have significant disagreements with?

The reason for these qualities is to promote peace and to be unified under God. When we unify under God and what He has called us to, everything else is not nearly as important as we once thought.

- What have you chosen to unify around other than God?
- Has unifying around something other than God forced you to put God second in your life?
- How can you promote unity throughout the church?

## PRAY

“God instill in me the qualities of humility, gentleness, patience and love so that I may promote peace and unity in the world.”

## ACT

This week, decide what quality you need to lean into more and put it into practice this week as you encounter different people from different walks of life.

[Discover Hope](#) | [Next Step](#)



ONE CHURCH. RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE.