

# SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Spring 2026:  
week 7

In John 17:20–26, Jesus prays not only for His disciples, but for all future believers—including us. On the night before the cross, Jesus prays that His followers would be united. This unity is not about sameness or agreeing on everything, but about loving one another deeply because we love Jesus deeply. Jesus teaches that the world often decides what it believes about Him by watching how His followers treat one another. Unity is not the goal—helping people find faith in Jesus is the goal, and unity is one of God’s strategies for making Him known.

The big question this passage asks is: **Am I making it easier or harder for people to see Jesus through my relationships?**

## Getting To Know You

*Ice-breakers are designed to establish common ground, help you get to know other people and share a little bit about your life.*

**1. When you think about your relationships, which relationship skill comes easiest to you:**

- Encouraging people
- Listening
- Telling the truth
- Forgiving
- Keeping the peace
- Making people laughing

**Which one is hardest?**

**2. What's something people tend to disagree about that makes you laugh a little? (Sports teams, parenting styles, politics, music, food, church preferences, etc.)**

**3. When you think of a healthy relationship, what qualities immediately come to mind?** Bonus points if you can list your three most important and three least important qualities.

## **Digging Deeper**

*These questions are designed to help you dig deeper into the sermon topic, relevant scriptures, and provide deeper opportunities for reflection.*

**1. Read John 17:20–26 together. What stands out to you most from Jesus' prayer? What surprises or encourages you about the fact that Jesus prayed for future believers—including us?**

**2. Pastor Steve said: "Unity is not thinking the same—it's moving in the same direction." Why is it important to understand that unity does not mean sameness or agreeing on everything?**

**What do you think are some differences people can have while still remaining deeply unified?**

**3. Jesus says our unity helps the world believe and know Him (vv. 21–23). Why do you think the way Christians treat one another matters so much to our witness?**

**Have you ever seen a healthy Christian relationship, marriage, family, friendship, or church community that made faith more believable to you?**

**How about an unhealthy Christian relationship? What were the negative impacts on your faith?**

**4. Read Ephesians 4:1–3. Paul says to make “every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit.” Why do healthy relationships take intentional effort and don’t just happen on their own? Explain a few things you intentionally do to keep your most significant relationships healthy.**

**What are some common things that quietly cause relationships to drift?**

**5. Pastor Steve mentioned four practical ways we protect unity: Grace & Truth — Forgiveness — Sacrifice — Commitment. Which one comes most naturally to you?**

**Which one stretches you the most right now—and why?**

## Application

*The goal is life transformation, not simple discussion. Application is how we live differently because of this week's teachings and discussions.*

**1. At the end of this weeks sermon we were asked to wrestle with this question: "Am I making it easier or harder for people to see Jesus through my relationships?"**

**What relationship might God be inviting you to invest in, repair, forgive, or approach differently this week?**

**2. What is one practical adjustment you can make this week to protect unity through: grace and truth, forgiveness, sacrifice, or commitment?**

## Prayer Requests

*Take time to record prayer requests here. Confidentiality is an important part of a healthy small group.*