

**INTRODUCTION**

Andrew Carnegie said, "Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results." In John 17, Christ ends His prayer with a plea to the Father that believers would remain one...a team who could, with the power of the Holy Spirit, change the world!

**DISCUSSION QUESTIONS**

1. What situations or attitudes cause division in your family? What issues divide Christians (but perhaps shouldn't)?
2. Read John 17:20-26. What is Christ requesting for all believers? Why do you think He prays for this?
3. Why is our unity a powerful statement about who God is? Have you experienced this kind of unity?
4. The unity of believers is mentioned a number of times in the New Testament. Read the following passages and record the main thought. What do you learn about "oneness"?

Romans 12:16 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Corinthians 1:10 \_\_\_\_\_

Galatians 3:26-28 \_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 2:14-15 \_\_\_\_\_

Ephesians 4:11-16 \_\_\_\_\_

Colossians 3:13-14 \_\_\_\_\_

1 Peter 3:8 \_\_\_\_\_

1 John 4:12 \_\_\_\_\_

*Study Questions for Community Groups*

5. Where do we at Fellowship exhibit strong oneness? What areas could be improved? How does our oneness, or lack thereof, impact the way you view the differences you have with other believers?
  
6. How do/can you contribute to the unity of Fellowship (Hebrews 13:1-3; Ephesians 4:1-5; and Romans 12:9-16)?
  
7. Read Philippians 2:1-5. What is the connection between humility and unity?

## **APPLICATION**

Is there a current lack of oneness with another Christian that you are aware of in your life? Knowing that God's will is for us to live in unity, what changes do you feel you need to make to live in unity with this person? Share as much as you can with your group, and pray for one another.

## **SCRIPTURE**

*“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world. Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me. I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”*

John 17:20-26 (NIV)