GROW – BONDING TOGETHER

- 1. Discuss the challenges of maintaining unity within a diverse community, such as a church. How can individuals with different backgrounds and perspectives come together in unity?
- 2. Read Ephesians 4:1-6. Paul exhorts us to walk (or live) in a manner "worthy of your calling," meaning to live in a way that reflects who we really are in Christ. What does it mean to walk worthy of your calling? What does this walk look like for you personally?
- 3. What is the difference between unity and uniformity? How do we (maybe unintentionally) expect or demand uniformity from others?
- 4. In verse 3 Paul tells us to be "eager" to maintain unity, meaning to make every effort, work hard. Why do we have to work at unity? Why is it so hard to maintain?
- 5. "Be completely humble" (verse 2) Can you think of a time when you struggled with pride? How did you become aware that you were being prideful? Why do you think it's easier to spot pride in others than in ourselves?
- 6. What do you think the relationship is between our humility toward God and our humility toward other people?
- 7. "Be gentle, be patient" (verse 2) How has God grown and changed you as you've followed him? Who has helped you grow? How does that recognition help you be patient with people who aren't where you are?
- 8. "Bearing with one another in love" (verse 2) When do you get disappointed or frustrated with people for not sharing your gifts or passions? What helps us bear with one another in love, instead of judgment or criticism?
- 9. Look in verses 4-6. What do we have that unites us to other followers of Jesus? When you're tempted to focus on differences, ask God to help you remember these things about others and focus on what you have in common.
- 10. What from this week's sermon or study do you want to remember or apply?