APPLICATION

- Do you have genuine, healthy, relationships in church?
 What can you do to have better relationships among Christ's body, starting today? What can you do to consistently and intentionally share your life with other believers?
- How can you do your part to maintain unity in Christ's body? What's one thing you can do differently, starting this week?
- What do you think you should do when you need to speak the truth to another believer? What do you need to guard against?

PRAYER

- Thank God for His call to discipleship—to follow Him, fish for the lost, and fellowship with other believers. Pray that you would be a lifelong faithful disciple of Christ.
- Thank God for the relationships He has blessed you with in church. Ask God for grace, humility, and love to overflow in these relationships.
- Pray for unity, love, and maturity to abound in Christ's body
 Pray that each part—including you—would do its work
 properly. Pray for the church to be strong and to continue to
 advance God's purposes on earth.



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Fellowship with Other Believers

WEEK 3

NOTES		

WARM-UP

- Growing up, what kind of people did you like hanging out with? Why?
- Recall a bad habit or attitude that you have outgrown. How and when did you mature in this area?
- What things do you enjoy doing for your family and friends?



¹⁵Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. EPHESIANS 4:15,16

If we've made a decision to follow Christ, we not only do this for the purpose of helping others follow Him. We are also following Him with other believers, and we share our lives with them. This is essentially what fellowship is. As Christians, we purposefully build our lives with other believers to glorify God through our lives. In this lesson, we will look at three key elements for genuine fellowship—unity, love, and maturity.

1 Unity

¹I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. **EPHESIANS 4:1-3**

Paul exhorted the church in Ephesus to walk in unity, humility, and patience. Believers who share lives are brought together not by common personalities, backgrounds, or preferences. We are brought together by our common faith in Christ, and the Bible tells us that we should be eager to maintain this unity. What are some of the things that can cause disunity or discord among believers and how can we guard against this?

2 Love

3

Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ EPHESIANS 4:15
As believers, everything we do should be in love—even when we speak the truth, which could potentially hurt others. This results in maturity. What do you think will happen if we do things out of love—as Christ has loved us. What do you think will happen if we do not do things out of love—maybe out of selfishness, pride, or insecurity?
Maturity
we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head,
into Christ EPHESIANS 4:15
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