



**CENTRE CHURCH**  
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2021**  
*WEEK 2: ONE BODY*  
*EPHESIANS 4:2-7*

*<sup>2</sup> Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. <sup>3</sup> Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism; <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. <sup>7</sup> But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.*

*Ephesians 4:2-7*

**MESSAGE SUMMARY**

*In a society divided by race, politics, and economic status, the church has a higher calling to transcend all divisions through our devotion to Jesus. This series passages through Ephesians 4 and unpacks the beauty, the healing, and the power of Christian unity.*

*This message gives the powerful rationale behind Christian unity and the effort required to maintain the love and unity achieved through the Spirit.*

*<sup>22</sup> And God placed all things under his feet and appointed [Jesus] to be head over everything for the church, <sup>23</sup> which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way. Ephesians 1:22-23*

*Unity is not uniformity.*

*Unity centers around Jesus.*

*Unity does not mean everyone is right.*

*Unity does not avoid the hard conversations.*

**Put It Into Practice (CBCVA.ORG/ONESTEP)**

*Share a meal and your story.*

*Join a conversation environment.*

*Partner with Centre Church.*

*Sign-up to serve.*

*Seek care.*



## WEEK 2: ONE BODY D-GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

### GET TO KNOW YOU

*Have you ever had a broken bone or perhaps part of your body that wasn't working quite right? How did it affect the rest of your body and your every day life? Have you ever experienced a time when your family or place of work was broken or dysfunctional? How did it affect you when you weren't living in unity with those around you?*

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Pastor Josh talked about the difference between unity and uniformity. What are some examples of things churches can have differences about and still be united around Jesus?*
- 2. Within the church in general today, what are some of the biggest issues dividing and tearing churches apart? Why are these issues so divisive?*
- 3. Read Ephesians 4:2. How could and how would our churches look different if we approached our differences and divisions by living out Ephesians 4:2 literally? What are specific ways or examples of how to live out this verse?*
- 4. Read Ephesians 4:3. Too many Christians don't make every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit to the bond of peace. What's at stake if we don't make every effort? What's the impact of a church that does make every effort?*
- 5. Look at the five next steps to unity (Message Notes). You've already joined a conversation environment. How can environments like D-Groups help a church achieve unity? Are there any other steps that you can take in the next several weeks to practically help our church become ONE?*

**Finish your time together with prayer. If you would like Centre Church to pray for anything in particular for you, let your D-Group Leader know.**

# D-GROUP LEADERS INFORMATION

*D-Groups are online, sermon-based discussion groups at Centre Church. Whether you're a lifelong member of Centre Church or a joining us online from around the world, D-Groups are your opportunity to discuss Sunday's message, develop your faith and grow as a disciple of Jesus.*

## WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS A D-GROUP LEADER?

*There are four main things we ask you be responsible for as a D-Group Leader:*

- 1. Lead the D-Group discussion.** *Everyone should have watched (or heard) the message prior to the D-Group meeting and discussion questions are already provided. Your task is to facilitate the conversation, to make people feel welcome, to keep things flowing in the right direction.*
- 2. Pray for your D-Group members by name daily.** *During your time together, God can do mighty things in the lives of your D-Group members (and yours as well). It is your privilege to pray for your members by name daily, asking God to move mightily in their lives.*
- 3. Identify and encourage a next step for your D-Group members.** *Every person has a next step in their relationship with Jesus. Look for next steps your D-Group members might take in their faith and encourage them in those. Examples of next steps are listed in FAQs.*
- 4. Connect your D-Group with Centre Church.** *Centre Church wants to come alongside to strengthen and encourage your D-Group. If you haven't already, register your D-Group with Centre Church so that we can follow up with you, keep up with attendance through the links provided, and pass on any prayer requests and feedback to Centre Church staff for follow-up.*

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

*What online platform do I use to host the D-Group meeting? Whatever platform is the most comfortable for you to use. There are both paid (e.g. Zoom) and free (e.g. Google Hangouts) options available. Set up the meeting and share the link with your D-Group members. If you'd like to open up your D-Group, you can also publicize your group through Centre Church and we will provide a Microsoft Teams video link you can use for no charge.*

*How long does a D-Group last? D-Groups are designed to be short-term groups that last as long as the sermon series or Bible study lasts. These short-term groups allow people to meet new people and study new topics without a long-term commitment. If your D-Group wants to continue to meet after the series or Bible study is over, your group can convert to a Community Group, which is a long-term group that meets either online or in person.*

*What are some examples of next steps? A person surrendering their life to Jesus, getting baptized, taking the Next Steps Track, partnering with Centre Church (church membership), giving financially, serving as a volunteer, meeting with a pastor, going on a mission trip, plugging into a long-term Community Group.*

*What do I contact if I need help? If you have any questions or need some help with your D-Group, please contact [abigail.parker@cbcva.org](mailto:abigail.parker@cbcva.org) and she will get you the help you need!*