



# Front Door Conversations

## Unity – 6/2 Talk

I'm so excited for this series, and I think it will be so impactful for your groups! Don't feel like you have to go through everything that is written! If your group needs to spend more time on one part, feel free to do that. The heart of this series is to encourage unity in Public Church by teaching us how to have tough conversations. Make sure you take time at the beginning to welcome any new people or guests and don't assume that everyone knows everyone. Give them a chance to introduce themselves and to share a little about what is happening in their lives.

- Did anything from the talk stand out to you this week?
- Read John 17:20-23
  - This is the last thing that John records of Jesus' life before He is arrested and dies on the Cross
    - If you were to pick the very last thing you think Jesus would pray for, what would you choose?
    - What does Jesus pray for?
  - Why is unity so important to Jesus?
    - What does He say happens in the world when His followers are unified?
      - Vs. 21 & 23 – The world will know Jesus and believe in Him
    - Unity reflects God
      - The unity in the Trinity
    - Disunity does not reflect God
      - And turns people off to Jesus
  - What prevents us from living out Jesus' prayer for us?
- Read Ephesians 4:1-3
  - Paul is in prison as he writes this letter to the church at Ephesus
    - Would you think his concern for them would be how they treated each other?
    - Why is it?
  - What is the calling to which they were called?
    - To bring the message of Jesus and the life-change only He offers to the world

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- Why would how we treat each other determine if we're walking in a manner worthy of that or not?
- Can you obey these commands in isolation?
  - So, what do you need to live in obedience to them?
    - Community – the Church!
  - Take a few minutes to define these words/phrases and describe how to practice them:
    - Humility
    - Gentleness
    - Patience
    - Bearing with one another in love
    - Eager to maintain unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace
- Read Ephesians 4:4-7
  - What all does this passage describe that all Jesus-followers have in common?
    - Do these things have more value than what we typically let divide us?
    - What does that say about us?
    - How can we change this?
  - What do all people who don't follow Jesus have in common?
    - They are responsible for their own sin
    - What changes that?
      - Vs. 7
      - Grace, given by Jesus' death on the Cross; where He took the punishment for our sin
    - Is anything more important than communicating that message?
      - What do we allow to become more important than communicating that message?
      - What should you do about it?