Hook - Getting to know one another

* Do you feel like Bellingham is a coconut or peach culture?[[1]](#footnote-0)
	+ What are the strengths and weaknesses of that?
* What was a time where you felt lonely/isolated?
* If that is where you are now, what are your hopes of moving out of this season?
* If that is not where you are now, what brought an end to that season for you?

Book - Scripture

* *Read the scripture passages and discuss to understand* ***what the text is saying****:*

**Read: John 17:20-26**

* What does it mean for us to be one even as the Trinity is one?
* What does that look like at the four different relational levels that Tim pointed out (Intimate, Personal, Social, and Public)?
* Why do you think that it is unity that will be the witness of Jesus’ sentness and the Father’s love for him?

Look - Connections to our world today

* *This section focuses on implications about* ***what this text means*** *about what’s wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.*
* Of the four different areas of connection/belonging (Intimate, Personal, Social, and Public), which do you see as your strongest point?
* Which do you see as a place for growth?
* Which do you see as our community’s strongest?
* Which do you see as an area for growth in our community?
* What does it look like for God’s grace to be present as we look to grow in these areas?

Took - Personal Application

* *This application focuses on* ***how God is calling us to respond****. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.*
* What would it look like for us as a small group to commit to grow in these four areas of belonging?
* What would it look like for us to grow in awareness of others’ needs in these areas of belonging?[[2]](#footnote-1)
* What are your hopes and dreams for this small group and this community?
* What is one step we can take towards that dream this week?
* What will you carry with you from this sermon series?

Time of Prayer

1. A peach culture is one that is very warm and friendly to strangers but has a reserved private self. A coconut culture is generally very reserved but once in, extremely loyal. For a brief overview visit [here.](https://impactgrouphr.com/individualpost/peach-vs-coconut-cross-cultural-communication-is-difficult/) [↑](#footnote-ref-0)
2. Note that awareness does not necessarily mean that we solve it ourselves. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)