



Sermon Discussion Guide Intentional Community- Tim Knipp February 4th, 2024

Hook - Getting to know one another

- Do you feel like Bellingham is a coconut or peach culture?¹
 - 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?

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](#).



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- 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
- 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

² Note that awareness does not necessarily mean that we solve it ourselves.