



Sermon Discussion Guide

Live the Mystery - Tim Knipp

November 3rd, 2024

Hook - Getting to know one another

- *How is everyone doing this week? Add other questions to get to know one another, especially ones related to the topic in the sermon.*
- What has been sticking with you so far in our series on Ephesians?
- When was a time you felt a sense of unity with a diverse group of others?
- Describe a moment when someone made every effort to reach out to and maintain relationship and unity with you. What stands out about that moment?

Book - Scripture

- *Read the scripture passages and discuss to understand **what the text is saying**:*
- **Read Ephesians 4:1-13**
- What has come in chapters 1-3, that Paul is building on with the “therefore” in Ephesians 4:1? (Some translations will have “then” rather than “therefore”).
- How are believers called to live in unity, as one?
 - What aspects are highlighted by Paul in his use of the word “one”?
 - What sameness are believers called into?
 - What diversity are believers called into?
 - What manner should this unity take?
- What is the end goal stated in verse 13?

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.*
- For this section, consider taking time to individually journal, write, or draw on these prompts. Make sure paper, pens and drawing materials are available.



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(However, these prompts could certainly be used for straightforward discussion as well).

- As this passage makes clear our call as believers to unity in humility, gentleness, and patient love:
 - Where have you experienced this unity *already happening*?
 - When have you seen someone live this calling out?
 - When have you experienced this unity with other believers?
 - How is this calling encouraging?
 - Where have you experienced this unity as *not yet fully realized*?
 - What different worldviews compete with this call?
 - What are challenges to living into this call?
 - How is this calling challenging to you and us?
- After writing/drawing on each of these, take time to share highlights together as a small group.

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 does this passage and this call to unity mean for us as Hillcrest?
 - Where have you found the church doing this well?
 - Where do you feel the church can grow in this regard?
 - What next steps might take to more fully realize this unity?
- What is one relationship you feel led to make every effort to keep unity in this week? What steps might that take?

Time of Prayer