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# Study 7 – Praying For Relationships And Unity

The disciple and apostle John taught that our love for God is tested in the waters of our love (and relationship) with one another. In other words, how we conduct ourselves with each other as the church, reflects the level of love we have for God – and therefore stands as our witness of God’s love for the world. So, to the world, good conduct in our relationships reflects a good God, and poor conduct reflects a poor image of God.

## Introductory Discussion

Read and consider Philippians 1:27

1. **How did Paul see the relationship between our conduct towards each other and being seen to be of one Spirit (or mind)?**

Read Luke 22:42

2. **The oneness between God the Father and Jesus the Son could perhaps be described as “perfect”. If it is, were the Father and Son in total agreement?**

**What does a “no” answer reveal about the person of Jesus? Does it mean that Father and Son were no longer in a perfect relationship?**

**In what way might the answer be “yes”?**

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## Observe

3. What does scripture say about how agreement works in the oneness of Father/Son relationship?

Mark 14:36

Matthew 26:42

John 6:38

1 Corinthians 15:28

Philippians 2:6-8

What is the over-arching thing you have seen or learned across these scriptures?

## Understand

Now read Philippians 2:5

4. What is Jesus' mindset?

What does this mean as we approach our relationship with God?

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What does it mean as we approach our relationship to one another?

5. How much does maintaining unity in Christian faith together rely on our willingness to express humility and submit to each other? Discuss.
6. What is the place if individualism in the context of being immersed together into one body?  
(Read and consider 1 Corinthians 12:12-27)

## Apply

7. Pray for God to bring us transformation towards having the mind of Christ through the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit. Pray that we would understand more the requirement for good conduct towards each other, rather than having total agreement.