



MAD AT US

Key Scripture

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:3

God matures us as a community when we extend grace

1. Unity requires reflection

If you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother or sister has something against you...

Matthew 5:23

2. Unity requires determination

Leave your gift there in front of the altar....

Matthew 5:24a

3. Unity requires initiative

First go and be reconciled to them; then come and offer your gift.

Matthew 5:24b

For personal reflection or group discussion.

The church is the gathering of Christ followers who come together to form a community of worship and mission. Conflict is inevitable, and we are called to forgive and make every effort to reconcile our differences to unite around his mission – to be a community committed to sharing the life giving power of Jesus with the world.

Questions to go deeper in your faith.

When someone makes you mad, how do you typically respond – fight or flight? Share an example from your life with the group.

Why does Jesus call us, Christ followers, to be the ones to seek reconciliation? When might that be hard for you to do?

Dig into Scripture.

Read Matthew 5:23-24. What is Jesus telling us in this section of the Sermon on the Mount? Who do you think is responsible for bringing about reconciliation?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:14, 18-19. Rephrase what you think this means in your own words.

Read Ephesians 4:3. How would you define unity?

Next Steps

What values do you think a unified church community portrays?

What behaviors might lead to disunity?

What are the relationships in your life that need reconciliation?

How can you “make every effort” to bring peace and reconciliation? What are the barriers to unity in those relationships?