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WEEKLY APPLICATION

TAKEAWAY: Obsessing over the good news of Jesus Christ brings our souls together.

HEAD CHANGE: Look to the example of Jesus who leads our Kingdom community.

HEART CHANGE: Look to the wants of our hearts that Jesus gives

LIFE CHANGE: Lean into becoming bridge builders, peacemakers, and reconcilers to one another.

OVERVIEW

Our world is pushing us into the margins of ideology, political positions, and creating an anxiety that is too much. The apostle Paul gives us a vision that is beyond the noise of this world. A vision of good news, a vision of unity, and a vision to work out our humanness in a way that sees past people's position to see a person's humanity.

"Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose."

-Philippians 2: 1-2 (NLT)-

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. Where do you think are the greatest places of division in our immediate relationships? i.e., politics, race, etc.
- 2. How have you grown up thinking about church community? Formalism, mysticism, activism, or anything else that resonates.
- 3. Does the gospel, Jesus' good news for us light up your heart? How can you lean into God's hope for us in your everyday life?
- 4. Nick gave us three examples in Jesus' life to live more fully as a "one soul'd" community. Jesus as a bridge builder, Jesus as a peacemaker, and Jesus as a reconciler. Did you hear an invitation from God to grow in one of those areas and what practically can you do to embody it this week?

CLOSE IN PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you desire and even made us to be a unified body of diverse children. Jesus prayed we would be one, Jesus collected us together as one, so help us today embrace this vision over our lives. Bring our souls together in a way that is louder than the ideas and politics of our age. Bring our hearts together in a way that stirs us to see others as you see them. Heal us of the sins of hurt we have shown, outrage we have inflicted, and even the pain we may have experienced in your church. You are a God who wholly unites the humble and we ask that you do that soul work in us today. In Jesus' Name, Amen.