

Small Group Questions – God’s Plan for the World: the Church

Sept. 29, 2019

1. What are some of the different ways that people think about or talk about the church's place in the world?
2. In chapter 4 Ephesians begins by speaking of our calling with a strong emphasis on our learning to live together. How does the emphasis on our maintaining the unity of the Spirit rather than creating unity challenge us in some of the conflicts we find at church?
3. In Ephesians 4 the focus is not so much on mature individuals as it is a church that is functioning properly - with each part working as it is intended to work. How does this challenge the way we often think about the church?
4. Central to the calling to grow up together as the body of Christ are the gifts which God gives to the church. In Ephesians we are told that God gives different people to the Church. How should this impact the way we think about one another in the church?
5. Read 1 Corinthians 12 Here we are told that the gifts of the Spirit have been poured out on the church. Everyone has received something. What gifts do you think the Spirit has given to you and what might this mean in terms of your responsibility to use those gifts for the whole church?