

**This is who we are. Part 6—Spirit** Text: Ephesians 4:1-6

**Warming Up**

**Questions:**

1. Tell us about a home project or repair that went terribly wrong.
2. Of the five virtues we've reflected on in our current worship series—humility, gentleness, patience, love, and peace—which would you most like to grow in?

**Digging In**

Read **Ephesians 4:1-6**.

**Questions:**

1. Why do you think humility, gentleness, patience, love, and peace were considered essential in “living a life worthy of the calling”?
2. This passage ends with “one” being repeated seven times. Why do you think this was important to the early Christians?
3. What do you think the consequences are when the church isn't able to maintain that “oneness”?
4. Why do you think this passage of virtues ends with “Spirit”, “Lord” (Jesus), and “Father”?

Read **Galatians 5:13-26**.

**Questions:**

1. According to Galatians 5, what is the purpose of our freedom?
2. How does this understanding of freedom differ from our country's understanding of freedom?
3. What do the “acts of the flesh” have in common when it comes to how we related to one another?
4. What does the “fruit of the Spirit” have in common when it comes to how we relate to one another?
5. What do you think it looks like to “stay in step with the Spirit” as an individual?
6. What do you think it looks like to “stay in step with the Spirit” as a church?

When the Spirit shows up in the Scriptures, something new is birthed in the world. Read the following passages. After each passage, consider the questions below.

Read **Genesis 1:1-2, Luke 1:25-38, Acts 2:1-12**

**Questions:**

1. What is the “raw material” that the Spirit is working with?
2. What new thing is the Spirit birthing in the world?
3. What role is the “raw material” invited to take in this new thing being birthed?

**Sending Out**

Read **John 14:26**.

In John 14:26 Jesus says that the Spirit will be given to his disciples to “remind” and to “teach”. This signals to the reader that the Spirit will both teach us what has already been taught (remind) and teach us new things. We will be reminded to follow in the footsteps of Jesus in the ways he has called us, with the virtues he has called us to grow in: humility, gentleness, patience, love, and peace, for instance. But we are also invited to be open to the *new* things the Spirit wants to teach us. The Spirit is still among us birthing *the new*.

**Questions:**

1. What do you think the church needs to be reminded of in this season of its life?
2. What do you want the Spirit to remind you of as you go about your day-to-day life this week?
3. What new thing would you like to see the Spirit do in the church in this season of its life?
4. What new thing would you like to see the Spirit do in you?

**Closing**

Take a moment in silence to come before God and ask the question, “What word or phrase or idea or moment does God want me to remember from this morning and carry with me this week?”

Close with prayer.