



## WEEK 3 – US & THEM

**Read:** Galatians 3:28-29, Hebrews 13:1-2

**OPENING PRAYER:** Gracious God, meet us in this time together. Connect us in the unity that is only possible through Jesus. Remind us that we belong to one another and to you. Amen.

Quote: “Our unity in Christ does not erase diversity. Our unity in Christ affirms and even demands diversity for the flourishing and stewarding of this world. Our diverse voices allow God’s truth to be told in many ways.” – *Kathy Khang*

**Starter Question:** When was a time when you received amazing hospitality? What made it so special?

### WRESTLING WITH THE WORD:

1. Think of the groups listed in Galatians 3:28. What were some of the differences between how people in those groups lived and were treated at the time it was written? What would be some real-life implications of saying “in Christ there is no longer...”?
2. Who do you think the writer is referring to in Hebrews 13:1-2 when they say “strangers”? What might hospitality towards strangers entail?
3. The Hebrews passage is a reference to Genesis 18:1-15. Read (or have someone summarize) that story and consider: What can happen when we “entertain angels” unknowingly?

### NEXT STEPS:

1. What are some of the most common “us” vs “them” categories in our communities, culture, and churches? In what ways can we embody the truth that “all of you are one in Jesus Christ”?
2. Are there ways in which you find safety and comfort in belonging to a group? Being part of an “us”? (This is not necessarily a bad thing!) Does your group define itself against others? Against “them”? What could a more positive definition look like?
3. Think about the kind of hospitality you offer loved ones by comparison with strangers? How can you, as an individual and we, as a church become more hospitable to all?

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Lord of love, thank you for this time and space of belonging. Soften our hearts so that we can be people who offer that belonging to others and be shaped by the unassuming angels you put in our path. Amen.

NEXT PAGE



### **Week 1: Heart & Head**

Sunday – Mark 12:30-31, Acts 8:26-40

Monday – Ephesians 5:15-20

Tuesday – Hebrews 7:15-22

Wednesday – Matthew 22:34-46

Thursday – John 17:24-26

Friday – Deuteronomy 7:9

Saturday – Romans 5:1-5

### **Week 2: Sacred & Secular**

Sunday – Acts 10:9-16

Monday – Matthew 22:15-22

Tuesday – Colossians 3:23-25

Wednesday – Matthew 12:1-8

Thursday – Matthew 12:9-14

Friday – John 15:8-9

Saturday – Philippians 2:10-11

### **Week 3: Us & Them**

Sunday – Galatians 3:28-29, Hebrews 13:1-2

Monday – 1 John 3:16

Tuesday – Matthew 5:44-45

Wednesday – John 13:34-35

Thursday – Matthew 15:21-28

Friday – Matthew 18:21-22

Saturday – Galatians 2:11-16

### **Week 4: Saint & Sinner**

Sunday – 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Monday – Romans 8:38-39

Tuesday – Romans 5:8

Wednesday – Titus 3:4-5

Thursday – Hebrews 12:5-6

Friday – Romans 3:23-26

Saturday – Acts 9:1-17