

SERMON NOTES

SUNDAY 11.05.25

PREACHER: PS ANDY MACCALLUM

UNITY

BECOMING CHRISTLIKE

BEING [HEART], THINKING [MIND] & DOING [BODY]

[A PERSONAL REFLECTION]

Conviction of a Disciple: As we become more like Jesus, we grow in our expression of the fruits of the Spirit, living lives marked by love, joy, kindness, self-control, and faithfulness.

OVERVIEW

As we walk with Jesus, we become confident in our identities as children of God. His grace changes our hearts, and the fruit of this flows from us and into those around us. Our communities reap the benefits, and we all begin to share in the spiritual overflow!

ACTION

Step 1: Reflect: Where in your life have you experienced spiritual overflow that impacted others? In contrast, are there areas where you've felt spiritually dry or self-contained? What might be contributing to either posture?

Step 2: Commit: What is one practical way you can intentionally cultivate unity in your relationships or church community this week—especially if it involves surrendering convenience or control?

Step 3: Act: Take time as a group to ask the Holy Spirit to fill you afresh and reveal any areas where disunity, self-focus, or striving has blocked His flow through you. Invite Him to lead you in becoming a person of overflow.

THOUGHT

SCRIPTURE: EPHESIANS 4:1-6

In John 7, Jesus speaks of rivers of living water flowing from within those who believe in Him. This image is not one of striving, scarcity, or self-containment, but of overflow. The Christian life is not just about individual holiness or spiritual survival, but collective health and relational unity. The Spirit doesn't simply refresh you—He flows through you for the benefit of others.

Too often, we fall into the trap of thinking about faith as a personal experience only. But the Gospel invites us into something richer: a life of shared purpose, spiritual overflow, and deep unity within the body of Christ. Galatians 5 reminds us that the fruit of the Spirit—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—is relational. These fruits aren't for show, they're for service.

Unity is one of the clearest markers of the Spirit's work in a community. As Ephesians 4 states, we are urged to “live worthy of the calling” by embodying humility, gentleness, patience, and bearing with one another in love. These aren't optional traits, but essential postures if we are to walk in the Spirit and foster a church where the river of God's presence can flow freely.

Selflessness is a sign of maturity and a life filled with the Spirit. Living in the overflow means surrendering control, allowing God's power to move through you for the sake of others, and walking in the mindset of Christ who made Himself nothing for our sake (Phil. 2:5-8).

We are called to cultivate unity, not just experience grace individually. Unity isn't uniformity—it's the harmony that arises when believers prioritise one another in love, even when it's uncomfortable. Overflow doesn't come through convenience; it comes through connection, surrender, and service.

DISCUSSION

[A GROUP REFLECTION]

1. What does "overflow" look like in your relationships—with those inside and outside the church?
2. Which fruit of the Spirit do you find hardest to express in community? Why?
3. Where in your life is God inviting you to prioritise unity over personal comfort or control?
4. Who is someone you can choose to serve or forgive this week in a way that reflects Christ's selflessness?

PRAYER

Lord,

Thank you that through the gift of your grace and the presence of your Spirit with us, we can live in overflow. Help our lives to bear good fruit, so that your goodness would not simply be contained in us but flow into those around us. Teach us to love others like you do and to see those around us through your lens of compassion, as we prioritise unity in our communities.

Amen