

DIVERSITY



WORD OF THE WEEK

1 Corinthians 12: 12-14

Christ is like a single body, which has many parts; it is still one body, even though it is made up of different parts. In the same way, all of us, whether Jews or Gentiles, whether slaves or free, have been baptized into the one body by the same Spirit, and we have all been given the one Spirit to drink. For the body itself is not made up of only one part, but of many parts.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

We praise you, God, for the diversity we see all around us. We rejoice in the complex beauty of Your creation. Help us to celebrate the wonderful blend of cultures and people in this world by actively seeking solidarity with one another.



As Christians, we believe that God made each of us differently.

We are part of a wonderfully diverse world.

Differences are to be celebrated and shared, rather than feared or mocked.

There are many differences between us all but ultimately we are all created in God's image and likeness, deserving of equal, dignity and respect.



"There was once a man who had never seen an eagle. One day a magnificent eagle landed on his window sill, and when he saw it, he exclaimed, "What an ugly creature!" The man grabbed the eagle and pulled it into his house. "First, I'm going to fix that curved beak of yours." He used a file to remove the hook in the eagle's beak. "Those claws are very vicious looking," the man said as he clipped the eagle's claws until there was little left. When he finished, the man said, "There, now you look better." And he put the bird back on his open window sill and shooed it away.

You can imagine how long the newly trimmed eagle lasted in the wild."

The man changed the bird drastically in this story. Without valuing the bird's special qualities, the man altered the bird to what he thought would be better.

Think about the eagle for a moment....

How important do you think it is for the eagle to have its claws and sharp beak?

Why are the eagle's beak and claws important to its survival?

After reading this story, why did you think the man changed the bird?

Did the man know the importance of the eagle's claws and beak? If he knew more about the eagle, do you think he would have appreciated the eagle instead of changing it?

Have you ever tried to change a person who is different from you?

What does this story tell us about diversity?

FINDING UNITY IN DIVERSITY

The Christian concept of unity within diversity means that while we are different on the inside and outside, we should be bound to each other. So what if we were all the same? Take a moment to think about the following questions either on your own or with the person next to you.

What would your day look like if everyone was the same?

Is difference important? Why?

Do you value diversity? When do you? When do you not?

When is unity in diversity difficult?

When is unity in diversity easy?

Why is unity in diversity important?



Diversity Spoken Word ([Click Here](#))
Don't Put People in Boxes ([Click Here](#))



Unity in Diversity
from an Ants point
of view!

[Click Here!](#)



"Our ability to reach unity in diversity will be the beauty and the test of our civilisation."

MAHATMA GANDHI

What do you think he means by this?

