

Discussion Questions

February 1, 2026

United in One Accord



This week, James led a “Family Business” meeting, grounding the church in its core vision: to actually live and love like Jesus. The message highlighted the “green shoots” of the Spirit already visible in the body. We explored the concept of Homothumadon (often translated “one accord”), which is not passive agreement but a “shared fire” or “fierce resolve” to press into God together. This unity, James argued, cannot be manufactured by willpower alone; it requires the power of the Holy Spirit. He then previewed Northview’s upcoming six-month series in Galatians, framing it as Paul’s answer to sustaining Spirit-created unity in a fractured church. The sermon closed with three practical invitations, press into community, press into prayer, and be known.

1. James mentioned seeing “green shoots” of the Spirit popping up in the church (e.g., care for the poor, the youth retreat, the prayer team). Where have you personally seen evidence of God at work in our community recently?
2. The sermon highlighted the stories of Betty Jo Zerfoss and Daniel Reeber, two people finishing their race with profound peace and an outward focus amidst great suffering. Discuss practically how do we become more like that as we age, and not more hardened or isolated.
3. Read Acts 1:14 & Acts 4:24
The sermon unpacked the Greek word Homothumadon (Homos = together; Thumos = fire/passion). How is this definition different from our modern understanding of “unity” or “getting along”?
4. Read Acts 2:1-2
In each passage where homothumadon appears (Acts 1:14, 2:1-2, 4:24), something significant happens immediately after. What pattern do you notice? What might this suggest about the connection between our unity and God’s movement among us?
5. James said Homothumadon isn’t a personality type - it can look like loud passion or quiet, unshakeable resolve. What does ‘fire in the belly’ for Jesus look like in your own life? And looking at the flip side: James compared ‘uniformity’ to a factory line where everyone acts the same. Why do you think we are often tempted to settle for uniformity (looking the same) rather than doing the hard work of true unity?”
6. James used the illustration of 100 compasses on a table. They don’t look the same, but they all point to the same North. In a diverse church family, what are the specific things that “magnetize” us to Jesus? What things tend to distract the needle?

7. Looking ahead to Galatians: We are about to start a series on Galatians, which contrasts “the flesh” (human effort/tribalism) with “the Spirit.” Why is relying on the Spirit essential for maintaining the kind of unity described in Acts? Why can’t we just “willpower” our way into loving difficult people?

8. James shared that our church has faced significant transition in the last three years, grieving the loss of familiar faces while welcoming so many new ones. Transition often makes us hesitant to invest emotionally. What is the biggest personal barrier (like fatigue, grief, or a ‘wait and see’ mindset) that makes it hard for you to ‘press in’ right now, and what is one practical step we can take to overcome that and actively build bridges between new and long-time members?

Acts 4:24 (NIV)

*They raised their voices **together** in prayer to God."*

Homothumadon - Translated as Together, "with one accord," "of one mind"

Homos = one and the same, together

Thumos = Heat / Fire / Passion (The fire in the belly)

Acts 1:14 (ESV)

*All these **with one accord [homothumadon]** were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.*

Acts 2:1–2 (NIV)

*When the day of Pentecost came, they **were all together [homothumadon]** in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.*

Acts 4:24 (NASB)

*And when they heard this, they lifted their voices to God **with one accord [homothumadon]**"*

Galatians is about the Holy Spirit creating a new family and how to live out the freedom Christ provides.

Genesis 22:18 (NIV)

Through your offspring, all nations on earth will be blessed.

1. Press-In to community - Join a Community Group

2. Press-In to Prayer with one another

3. Be Known

1 Corinthians 10:17 (CSB)

Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, since all of us share the one bread.