



Unity: When Christ-Followers Agree Home Fellowship Notes

Sermon Date: November 16, 2014

Scripture: I Corinthians 1:1-17

Speaker: Pastor Mike Jacobson

Icebreaker: What is your favorite dessert?

Introduction: How do we all get along...how do we all get on the same page? According to the Apostle Paul unity is not only possible...it is required. God's standard for unity is not just a goal that we some how reach from time to time; it is something that must be pursued with a passion.

Question? What are some thoughts and questions that you have from Sunday's sermon?

I. The Plea

Question? According to I Corinthians 1:10, why is unity so important in the church? Who is ultimately affected when unity is not present?

Question? According to Acts 2:46,47, what is the result of having singleness of heart and mind...i.e. unity?

Question? According to vs. 10, unity is possible. What do you think of the statements; "God never lowers the bar to accommodate our carnality." Or "God never changes His standards to accommodate us."

Question? Read and discuss Romans 16:17. What does it mean to have doctrinal unity?

II. The Problem

Question? Is it true that God only has one opinion on a two-sided issue? With that in mind, how possible is it to have unity on various issues and opinions?

Question? Can the church head in two or more directions (even good directions) and remain unified? What were the different directions facing the Church of Corinth?

III. The Prescription

Question? Read Ephesians 4:1-6, how often is being one or oneness mentioned. Can we create unity or do we "Maintain Unity". What does it mean to maintain unity? Comment on the following steps to maintain unity.

A. A commitment to a compelling cause (mission and vision). Philippians 2:2. What is the purpose of the church? Are we following our mission statement - which reads...?

The purpose of this Church shall be; to glorify God at all times through the winning of the unsaved to Jesus Christ, the edification of believers, to provide for the spiritual needs and Christian instruction of our children and youth, the furtherance of the Gospel work on mission fields at home and abroad, the promotion of Godly worship, the administration of the ordinances of the Lord's Supper and Baptism, and cooperation with Christian activity functioning in harmony with God's Word.

B. Agreement on philosophy of ministry (Acts 2) - What is does it look like to following the five purposes equally. What if you focus on one or two at the exclusion of the others?

- Worship
- Outreach (Evangelism)
- Discipleship (Biblical instruction and mentoring)
- Fellowship
- Service (Serving and Leadership Development)

C. Environment of grace, respect, care and love - Read - John 13:35
Ephesians 4:32

D. A framework of mutual accountability
Read and discuss - Matthew 18:15-17

E. Trust in and willingness to follow leadership

Read and discuss - Hebrews 13:17, 1 Thessalonians 5:12,13

Prayer Requests

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