

**Sermon Notes: *“Unity in the Church”***

John 17:20-24, 1 Cor. 15:3-4

7.6.25

**Jesus’s Prayer for Unity**

* You weren't an afterthought; you were part of His plan from the beginning.
* Jesus doesn't just pray for unity - He prays for a specific KIND of unity that mirrors the depth and relationship of Jesus and the Father.
* Our unity is the tool that God will use to get the gospel message out.
* Jesus isn't asking us to create unity, He's asking us to live out the unity He's already given us.

**So What?**

**Your season of life doesn't disqualify you from the mission of unity - it just changes how you live it out.**

* **Recognize ways we are already in unity.**

* **Be honest about ways we have been divisive.**
* **How is God trying to use you for unity?**

**In light of the knowledge of unity as it was prayed for by Jesus, what do you think about your relationship with your local congregation?**

**The closing thoughts of Jesus, all those years ago, included us!  We are to stay in such close relationship with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, that it spills out to our family in Christ as well.  *And by this the world may know the level of God’s love.***

**For Study, Reflection, Discussion:**

1. Review the sermon notes from Sunday. Was there a particular point that stuck with you? *What* was it and *why* did it resonate with you?

**Read John 17:20-24**

1. List examples from the bible where believers who were unified made a great impact for the kingdom?
2. How is the **unity** that Jesus asked for different and better than a contemporary understanding of the word “unity”?
3. Do you find it interesting that you share so much in common with Christians worldwide even though they may speak a different language and have different customs?
4. Give thanks and talk about times that you prayed with other Christians, reached out with other believers to help someone in need, or worked alongside of other Christians to achieve a Church edifying goal.

**Specific Action Step:**

Think of some small way to partner with other believers to build up the body of Christ.

**Don’t Forget:**

* Give thanks for the healthy birth of, Judah Darin Frey. 8.4 lbs, 20.5” long. Born on July 5th at 11:59 am! Everyone is doing GREAT!
* Today, after the service, stay for Liz, Gabe, and Ruth Neveaus’ presentation on their mission trip to Honduras in May. They thank you for your prayers and financial support and want to share with you all that went on in the name of Christ!
* Next week, our guest speaker Sunday morning will be HanEol (David) Kim of Christ Reaching Asia Missions (CRAM) Worldwide. ECC has supported CRAM for many years.
* Weekly Movie Nights, Wednesdays at 7 pm: The Chosen, Season 5. Eight episodes will run July 9th through August 27th. Before each showing, there will be a short Bible study pertaining to that night’s episode.

**Prayer:**

Father thank you for my family in Christ. Thank you that the unity you have given us is a testimony to our world that you love us so much that you sent Jesus to us. Give me awareness of how I relate to other believers so that the watching world may be drawn to You.

In Jesus's name. Amen.