

Unity – Week 1 – Pastor Guy Conn – 8-7-22

1. Do you have any stated values in your life? (school, work, personal) If so what are they?
2. Pastor Guy said that Jesus' number 1 value for us is Unity. What are your thoughts about this?
3. What does it feel like when you experience disunity?
4. What is the difference between unity and uniformity?
5. Why is diversity so important in the church?

John 17:20-23 - ²⁰ "My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— ²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

6. How does it make you feel that Jesus is praying for you and I (and all Christians) to be in unity?
7. Why does Jesus say (twice) that unity is so important for his followers?
8. How does Christians being in unity help those who don't believe?
9. What happens when Christians are not united, but in disunity?
10. What would you sacrifice unity over?
11. What should be our response to other believers who have strong differences to us?
12. Is there anything more important than unity in the church? Why or why not?
13. Why can't we be united with those who are not followers of Jesus?

John 13:12-17 - ² When he had finished washing their feet, he put on his clothes and returned to his place. "Do you understand what I have done for you?" he asked them. ¹³ "You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and rightly so, for that is what I am. ¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶ Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.

14. Jesus washed his disciples feet the night before he was crucified, the same disciples who would betray him, abandon him, fight for positions of power, and completely miss Jesus' purpose and mission. Why do you think that Jesus did this?
15. Whose feet would it be difficult for you to wash?
16. Is there anyone you are not in complete unity with?
17. Pastor Guy said that you cannot experience the will of God in your life without unity, because unity is the will of God. What are your thoughts about this?

John 13:34-35 - "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

18. Jesus supercedes the golden rule, to love others the way that we want to be loved, with this new command to love the way he loves us. How did/does Jesus loves us?
19. What does this mean for how you need to love others?
20. How does love bring unity?
21. Who do you need to show love to this week? Who do you need to seek unity with?