

STUDY NOTES

THAT THEY MAY BE ONE A SERIES *at* NEW CITY CHURCH

www.newcityphx.com/sermons

The following content is based on the message “That They Might Be One” on 10/29/17 at New City Church in Phoenix, AZ. The following is not meant to be a full synopsis but rather a brief look at the main ideas. To use this Study Guide effectively you must listen to the message found at <http://newcityphx.com/sermons/>.

Leaders using these Study Notes for group study and reflection should read the Biblical text thoroughly before beginning, using this resource as assistance and not relying solely on this material for insight. We encourage all leaders to pray and ask the Spirit for revelation as they lead their respective community groups.

PRAYER

Pray and ask God to lead the discussion as everyone gets to share.

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 17:20-26

WHY UNITY?

God creates a new people through the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus. He sends this new people out into the world, empowered by the Holy Spirit, that they may be one. Why does he do that? So that the world believes in him.

Unity brings us closer to God and each other and attracts the world to us.

- *It feels like we've been talking about unity a lot. Why do we still need to talk about unity?*

WHAT DOES DISUNITY DO?

Unity does not mean that people will never disagree. Disagreeing is okay, but at the end of the day, the house must be united to be all it can be. Disunity is not attractive to outsiders and it does not create an environment for people to seek and discover Jesus. However, maybe one of the biggest things disunity does is as follows:

Disunity doesn't prepare your heart to receive outsiders.

- *Talk with each other about a time in your own life when disunity created a very uncomfortable situation.*
- *If you were part of causing the tension, how did that impact your heart toward others?*
- *Talk about your experience with the ways that the Church is viewed because of the divisions within it.*

BUT HOW DO WE ATTAIN UNITY?

Unity starts at the feet, not at the head. Let's read about what we mean:

John 13:3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into his hands, and that he had come from God and was going back to God, 4 rose from supper. He laid aside his outer garments, and taking a towel, tied it around his waist. 5 Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and to wipe them with the towel that was wrapped around him.

Humility is key to attaining unity. Jesus had all things given into his hands and he used the opportunity to serve others. He used that power to save each of us so that we could fully know him as God.

You didn't save yourself so get over yourself.

- *How **should** Jesus's actions to serve his disciples be shocking to us?*
- *Humility is hard. Why does acting out of humility feel exposing and vulnerable?*
- *How is the Holy Spirit leading you to be more humble? Or, if you don't feel the Holy Spirit's leading, how can you make more space for the Holy Spirit to speak to you?*
- *Pray for strength to be humble for the sake of unity.*