

Taking it Home:

- Is there anything that you are involved in that is contributing to disunity in your home, your workplace, your church? What is Jesus' solution to disunity?
- **Focus on John 17:26. Why is this verse so crucially important?**
This was one of the last things Jesus ever said apart from His arrest, trials, torture and crucifixion. Why is this verse so fundamentally important for our Christian life?
- "A marriage is made up of two broken people in a fallen world under attack by Satan." Why does Satan and his demonic horde (dark kingdom) work overtime to destroy the God designed Oneness (unity) of marriage?

Be the Master's Friend
Pursue Unity
John 17:20-26

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Bethel Church
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Pursue Unity

Jesus petitions His Father to empower believers to be united as one just as Jesus and His Father are united as one.

Notes:

For more information about Growth Groups, Growth Group homework, and a podcast of sermons with homework, visit www.bethelc.com

Growth Group Homework

For the week of April 18, 2010

John 17:20-26

Quick Review: This is the last portion of Jesus' prayer for Himself, the disciples and the body of Christ, the Church. Jesus' prayer to the Father is a prayer for the Church to have unity of love, and a unity of obedience to God and His Word so the Church would be powerful representatives for Jesus and the Father as they are sent into the world.

My Story

- What evidence of **unity** do you see in your relationships (home, work, church, socially)?
- What are some roadblocks to **unity** in your sphere of influence (relationships, experiences, schedules, etc.)?
- Is it really possible to have complete **unity** with others in our diverse culture today? Explain.
- Have you ever been a part of a church split (disunity), or have you ever heard about a church split? Was it a positive or negative experience? Explain and discuss.

Growing Deeper

- Jesus prays to the Father that just as Jesus and the Father are unified as ONE, that the disciples (and all future Christians) should be unified as One. According to John 17:21 list the reasons why is it important for Christians to have unity with each other and with God?
- Pastor Matthew used the nation of Israel in Numbers 13:1-14:10 as an analogy of what a non-unified congregation looks like, and the repercussions of their disunity. What would it have looked like if the 12 Israeli spies would have come back to Moses and had reported favorably, with unity their desire to enter the promise land? Examine the Scriptures and discuss.
- Pastor Matthew stated, "Unity is a sign of maturity." READ Ephesians 4:1-6 and 4:13-14. What did Pastor Matthew mean by that statement?
- What should "unity of the believers" look like within the local Church?
- Our LORD is a God of "Oneness;" i.e., the Trinity of God; marriage, a man and woman becoming One; the Church, made up of many members being called One Body, etc. READ Ephesians 5:22-33. Interpreting these Scriptures, what is the clear relationship between Jesus Christ and the Church?
- What type of relationship does Jesus Christ's desire for Christian marriage? For a Christian home?