Psalm 133 Josh Jones, Family Ministries Pastor Lord's Day, July 17, 2016

I. God intended for us to live with Him and others in unity

- Creation Genesis 1:27-31 God looked at everything he had made and <u>it was good</u>.
 - Unity between God and Man
 - o Unity between Man and Man
 - Unity between Man and creation
- Through Sin...unity has been severed (Gen. 3:1-6)

II. Unity is Desired

"Some things are good for us but not pleasant. Other things are pleasant but not good. But the unity we have as God's people is both good and pleasant. It is even a bit of heaven now." –James Boice

III. Unity is restored through the Cross-

- PEACE WITH GOD
 - Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."
 - Romans 5:1 " Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ..."
- PEACE WITH PEOPLE
 - Galatians 3:26-29 for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.
 - Ephesians 2:12-19 Remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. [13] But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. [14] For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the

dividing wall of hostility [15] by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, [16] and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. [17] And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. [18] For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. [19] So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

"Unity takes peace beyond you. It's how you prove to the world that Christ and the peace he claims to bring are undeniably real, because when your relationships with others display unity, people see God alive in you. As long as unresolved conflicts and broken relationships dominate you, you can't expect anyone to believe what you say about your amazing life as a Christian." (Ken Sande, *The Peacemaker*, p.32)

• PEACE WITH OURSELVES

- "Oh that you had paid attention to my commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea;" (Isaiah 48:18)
- Isaiah 26:3 You will keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on You.

IV. Unity Restored through Christ is a blessing to all

- Unity is an abundant Blessing
 - Psalm 133:2 "It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!"
- Unity is beneficial to the people of God.
 - Psalm 133:3 "It is like the dew of Hermon which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.
 - 2 Timothy 1:16 "May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphorus, for he often refreshed me and was not ashamed of my chains...