

### **Big Idea**

True unity is not something believers pursue or manufacture but a reflection of our common union with Christ.

**Union with Christ:** Spiritual connection with Christ and the numerous benefits believers receive in salvation through relationship with Christ.

True Unity is...

#### **I. Supernatural**

- a. Results from the gospel (20-21)**
  
- b. Reflects God's character (21-23)**

#### **II. Observable**

- a. Authenticates the gospel (21, 23)**

“Ideally ... the church itself is not made up of natural ‘friends.’ It is made up of natural enemies. What binds us together is not common education, common race, common income levels, common politics, common ancestry, common accents, common jobs, or anything else of that sort... . In this light, they are a band of natural enemies who love one another for Jesus’ sake.” - Don Carson

- b. Announces God's love (23, 25-26)**
  
- c. Anticipates heaven (24)**

### **Benediction**

Romans 15:5-6 <sup>5</sup>May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.