



COVENANT CHURCH

All In: Learning to Live in Unity - Part 2
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Below is a devotional study guide for you to refer to and reflect during the week. You can watch the service online again, anytime, at www.covenantchurch.org/media or on the CovLive app.

If you do not have a physical Bible, we encourage you to download one to your device. YouVersion is available in the Apple Store or on Google Play for free. It contains hundreds of versions, is translated into several languages, and includes thousands of devotional studies available right at your fingertips.

If you are a part of a Small Group, be creative in ways to meet-up. This guide can be a useful tool to lead discussions, whether it be through email, a Facebook group, a Zoom call, etc. If you have not yet joined a Small Group, there's no better time! Go to www.covenantchurch.org/groups or Small Groups on the CovLive app to search for a group that interests you!

Main Idea

To be ALL-IN with unity, we must be undivided. The two most powerful forces for unity are a common adversary and a common authority.

Introduction

Division isn't always a bad thing.

- We can't discuss unity without talking about division.
- In our current national climate, we long for unity, but we can't escape our political process.
 - Our form of government was designed to create room for opposing opinions to be shared and considered. It keeps checks and balances intact.
 - We all long for unity, but our government was designed this way for our protection.
 - We are united by a construction of agreements - the formation of our constitution.
- Division is good when used by God.
 - Consider Adam - he was complete and whole, but alone.
 - God took from him Eve, because it wasn't good for him to be alone.
 - Eve represented the necessary and opposite part of Adam.
 - Opposites bring balance.
- Our country allows for debate. Let them (the candidates) fight it out.
- Our voice is heard in our vote.
 - Our vote is not a valentine - a pledge of undying love and devotion.
 - Our vote is a chess move for the world we want to live in.
 - Please vote.
- We must discern the spiritual battle behind what we see in the natural.
- We must see our spiritual enemy that wants to divide us because of our differing opinions.
- Read: Philippians 4:6 - Don't be anxious about anything.
- Read: James 1:20 - Anger does not produce righteousness.

Discussion One

We can be unified against a common enemy.

- Divide and Conquer - This term originates from ancient warfare and rulership techniques.
- The goal is to get one's opponent to fight amongst themselves.
- The enemy wants us to be focused on the distraction of division - the distraction of our differing opinions and ideas.
- Story of Gideon in the Old Testament book of Judges.
 - o Read: Judges 7:17, 18, 22
 - o At the instruction of Gideon to sound the trumpets, the enemy of Gideon's army turned on each other with their swords.
 - o We must be aware of who our enemy is.
 - o If we can see them, they are not our real enemy.
- If we properly discern the spiritual side to every battle, we will find ourselves on the right side, fighting for the right things.

Discussion Two

We can be unified under a common leader - authority.

- Our unity is found in Christ Jesus.
- What we stand FOR and whose we stand behind with loyalty.
- Read: 1 Chronicles 12:33 - No divided loyalty
 - o 50K warriors were all in - loyal with one heart to one leader.
 - o Our confidence is based and founded on the king we back - who we are aligned with.
 - o We align with God's winning record.
- Our unity with God is our greatest battleground.
- Read John 1:7
 - o We must walk in the light because He is in the light.
 - o It's not God's responsibility to join us in darkness, we must leave the darkness and join Him in the light.
 - o Walking in the light requires movement...taking a step.
 - o This is a walk of faith. The enemy will want us to doubt by asking "Did God really say?"
- The enemy wants to get us so caught up in distractions of defeat and confusion that we can't remember the last thing God said to us.
- We have to step out of our fear and into our belief and trust in the faithfulness of God.
- God is inviting us to walk into revelation by simple obedience to God.
- There are small steps we can take in obedience that cause big changes.
- Example of Saul's sacrifice over obedience.
- The greatest sacrifice you can make is to obey God.
- Read Luke 5:5
 - o Jesus finds Peter cleaning his nets after a long night fishing and no catch and tells Peter to go back out and cast his nets again.
 - o Peter's response to Jesus was, "because YOU say so, I'll let down my nets".
 - o Peter's motivation was no longer personal ambition - he just chose to obey, align his faith, and the result was God's blessing - full boats of fish!
- One word from God, obeyed, can change everything.

Reflective Questions

For All In: Learning to Live in Unity

1. Do you have an example in your life where you found unity with someone (others) because of a common enemy? Or a common goal? A common mission? A common leader?
2. Was it easy or difficult for you to set aside your difference and focus on the goal?
3. What would happen if you step out of all the doubt and just believe?
4. Is there something in your life that you need to step away from darkness, fear or doubt? What does it look like for you to step into faith in that example?
5. What is God asking you to do (however small) to launch you into big changes in your life?