



## COVENANT CHURCH

All In: Learning to Live in Unity - Part 3

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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](http://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](http://www.covenantchurch.org/groups) or Small Groups on the CovLive app to search for a group that interests you!

## Main Idea

As brothers and sisters in Christ, united by the blood of Jesus, we are called to choose unity as a witness to the world that Jesus IS who He says He is. Unity is what brings glory to God, causes personal growth, and produces the perpetual fellowship with God we all seek to attain.

## Introduction

### ***We unite for the Glory of God***

- There are tensions in this nation when it comes to racism.
  - We've all had bad experiences and we have to look beyond the individual.
  - We have a real enemy that is behind the personality and hurt people, hurt people.
  - We must rise above it to overcome our own inner challenges.
  - Our response must be MERCY, because that is God's response.
- The common denominator in every experience (positive/negative) is people.
  - Negative experiences are result of not finding a common ground.
  - Positive experiences are result of unifying in a common cause.
- Our differences can be a bridge to meaningful conversation and understanding.
- Our God given mandate is to unite for the common cause of the Glory of God.
- Have you gone all in for HIS glory & to make Him known?

# Discussion One

## *Jesus prayed for Himself*

- Read John 17: 1-5 - Jesus prays for Himself.
  - Jesus is praying just before He will be arrested and ultimately crucified.
  - Glorify Your Son so that He can glorify You.
- What is the glory of God?
  - The expression of His character, His worth and His attributes
  - Glory can't be seen, but manifests in the natural, like the shekinah glory
    - Isaiah 6:1-3
      - Angel is crying "Holy, Holy, Holy! The whole earth is full of His glory"
      - The Glory of God is a manifestation of his holiness
      - His love, His grace, His salvation, provisions, protection, kindness
      - In nature - God's creation

# Discussion Two

## *Jesus prayed for the Disciples*

- Read John 17:9-12 - Jesus prays for the disciples to be one and protected to remain unified.
  - The Disciples were "all in" with Christ and Jesus knew the assault that would come against them.
  - If they could maintain their unity then nothing could stop them from sharing the gospel.
- Read John 17:13- Jesus prayed the disciples would be filled with His joy.
  - The same joy Jesus had when He knew He was facing the cross.
  - The joy of being seated in God's throne - perpetual uninterrupted communion with the Father.
  - Caused Jesus to walk in complete obedience.
  - The endgame (goal): unbroken fellowship with God.
- Read John 17:14 - Jesus prayed that they would be kept from the evil one.
  - The enemy doesn't want us to believe in the Word of God or that God is for us.
  - Read Gen. 3:4 - Satan convinces Adam and Eve to doubt God's promises.
  - He wants to make us discontented.
- Read John 17:16-18 - Jesus prayed for the disciples to be sanctified.
  - Set apart to do God's work
  - Brings real satisfaction

# Discussion Three

## *Jesus prayed for US*

- Read John 17:20-23 - Jesus prays for US.
- That we are ONE (unified) with each other, and ONE with Him.
- So the world would know God.
  - Jesus wants US to be one - undivided by any of our differences.
  - Our unity does the following:
    - witness to the world that Jesus IS who he says He is
    - Brings Glory to God
    - Causes growth and maturity
    - Produces a perpetual fellowship with God
- We are united because of the blood of Christ. We must choose unity with one another!

# Reflective Questions

For *All In: Learning to Live in Unity*

1. Is there anything in your own heart/mind that stands in the way of choosing unity with other believers?
2. How can the differences (economic, racial, political, status) you have with fellow believers be an opportunity for meaningful conversations - ones that will grow you as a person in understanding and grace? What has been the outcome of such conversations (if you've experienced already)?
3. How can you CHOOSE unity with someone who is vastly different than you?
4. Have you gone "all in" with Jesus to make HIM known to your world?
5. Do you have a strong community of godly friendships that will support and encourage your walk with Christ? If you don't we have wonderful small groups where you can find this kind of relationship.