

Becoming One in 2021 Part 2 handout

1. Unity begins with Prayer John 17:20-23 (KJV)

A. Unity doesn't begin with doctrine. People have been arguing doctrine since before Christ came. Prayer is the uniter of God's people.

B. Just as there are differences in doctrine, there are also differences in worship styles. Some churches prefer a more formal style of worship, what we call high church.

C. Some churches really value traditions passed down through the ages, others just don't relate to traditions. Some want communion weekly while others monthly.

D. Jesus prayed for the Father to make us one. Since unity is something God does with us, we need to ask Him to do that. Ask and it shall be given unto you.

E. Jesus is the unity way maker. He brought both Jews and Gentiles together as one new man. We are created together for good works, and to walk accordingly. **Ephesians 2:4-10 (KJV)**

F. He didn't just raise me up together with Christ to be seated in heavenly places. He raised us up together with Christ to be seated in heavenly places. Verse 6

G. When we're made alive in Christ we're also made together in Christ! This just isn't a "just me and Jesus thing"

H. His kindness is shown in us for others to see, not just for me to experience. The first 5 books of the New Testament are told through the lives of a group of people.

I. He could have just chosen one person to write a gospel book, but He chose a group because it's an "us" mission, not a me mission, but a "we" mission.

J. Too many of God's people are living far below their potential and privilege because of disunity.

2. Unity brings balance and harmony.

A. Unity is about proper balance, in the spiritual and physical realms. Jesus said the word "one" five times. Five is a significant number in Scripture in both the natural and spiritual.

B. Unity brings balance in our relationships. The 10 commandments were give to bring balance in our relationships with man and God. 5 commandments are for man and 5 for God.

C. The number 5 represents God's goodness and grace towards man.

D. The Bible is full of examples about the number 5 in both the Old and New Testaments.

Israel gave 5 different types of offerings to God: burnt offering, sin offering, trespass offering, grain offering and peace offering.

E. There were 5 different ingredients of the holy anointing oil - myrrh, cinnamon, calamus, cassia, and olive oil. Ex.30:23-25. There were 5 ingredients in the holy incense

F. Instructions to build the Tabernacle in the wilderness centered around the number 5 also. Everything was made out of 5 components- 5 curtains, 5 pillars, 5 bars etc.

G. In the O.T. The first 5 books of the Bible or law were called the Pentateuch. Jewish boys were encouraged to memorize these five books by the time they were 13 years old.

H. The first 5 books of the N.T. are about Jesus and His teaching. You could say that the four gospels and the Book of Acts are the N.T. Pentateuch

I. The apostle John, known as the love apostle, wrote 5 books - Gospel of John, 1-3 books of John and book of Revelation.

J. Stop and think about how important you are to God that He would communicate His love and good intentions towards you in the Bible

K. Jesus received 5 wounds when He was on the cross - each hand, each foot and His side.

L. Jesus Christ is coming back soon to confront us about what we've done with what He's given us. He's given us eternal life,

3. Jesus the unifier came to unite truth and grace in us John 1:17

A. He came to give us access to Father God by One Spirit. Unity is the door of access to God and our spiritual family.

B. He made us one new man with His people by breaking down the fleshly wall and laws that separated us. **Ephesians 2:13-15 (KJV)**

C. Only together are we grown into a holy Temple for the habitation of God through the Spirit. **Ephesians 2:18-22 (KJV)**

D. Jesus showed us how to release the supernatural. He performed unity exercises. Jesus took 5 loaves of bread and multiplied them to feed 5000 people.

E. Miracles, signs and wonders were unity activated! **Matthew 14:17-21 (KJV)**

F. Many of us have seen what the Lord can do for me. We've personally experienced the supernatural. **Mark 16:20 (KJV)**

G. The unified church has unified experiences of the supernatural! **Acts 2:44-47 (KJV)**

H. Sometimes trouble brings us together. We often try everything we can to stay far away from trouble not realizing that trouble is often the podium of unity

I. Denise and I started going to church looking for help with our marriage. An unexpected illness, a failing business, lost loved one is where believers can find a place for ministry.

J. Unity comes from mash potato love. When you cook the potatoes, they don't become one substance until they are mashed and blended together with other ingredients.