

# UNLEASHING UNITY

Sermon Series : Unleashed

Speaker : Josh Weaver

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Scripture: 1 Cor 12; Phil 2:1-7; Num 12:1-10

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you" (John 17:20)

## QUESTIONS

### 1. Unity is diversity acting as one toward the same mission

(1 Cor 12:11-14)

- We need to guard unity
- Disunity: Things don't divide up, WE LET things divide us
- We have the power to let things divide us or unify us

### 2. How we talk about controversial topics will determine whether we will be unified or divided (Col 3:12-14)

Approaches to Conflict:

- Avoid -vs- Attack -vs- Approach
- Is it truth to: Die for, Divide over, or Debate about?

### 3. A Unified Church becomes an Unleashed Church

- It is important for us to get Unity Right

### 4. Jesus is the Win, Unity is the Strategy

- We see unity as Strategy by Design (Gen 2:18)
- We see Unity as Strategy by Prayer (Jn 17:11,20-23; Acts 2:42-47)

### 5. Three ways to work toward unity:

- Partner with People
- Like and Sincerely Enjoy People
- Forgive People

1. What is unity? (Answer from your own thinking, illustrations, as well as the Bible)
2. Why does God care about unity?
3. Josh said: "Things don't divide up, WE LET things divide us". What do you think/feel about this statement? Do you agree or disagree? why?
4. Evaluate your contribution to unity. In what ways are you contributing to or detracting from unity in (a) your family? (b) your Group/community? (c) your church? (d) The Church?  
*[Is there something you need to do this week to be an agent of unity?]*

*Holy Father, protect us by the power of your name, so that we may be one as you are one. We pray for all of those who believe in your son Jesus that we will be brought into complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent your son as a sacrifice for them and have loved them as you have loved us.*

## GC Definition of Spiritual Unity:

*Unity is the state of acting as one as led by the Spirit. Most often unity is something already possessed and needs protection rather than something acquired. We guard our unity by not tolerating gossip, replacing complaints with confidence, seeking conflict resolution, avoiding passive aggressive behavior and aligning agendas into the shared vision. Unity sees the need for diversity and even differing perspectives, leader styles and giftings. Unity is maintained as we work our differences into a complimenting ethos rather than a conflicting one. Unity recognizes that there are many ways to accomplish a plan and that my way is not always the best way. Unity is preserved when everyone has your back and the backs of their teammates. They voice their support in public and their concerns in private.*