

TAKE HOME SHEET



Series: Context
Message: Unity
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: June 5/6, 2021

After reviewing the message notes, take some time to think about the following questions. If you can, invite someone to do it with you and share your answers.

Why do you think Jesus is so concerned about unity in His church?

Where have you seen unity lived out in a compelling way?

What gets in the way of living in peace and unity with others?

What are some of the “non-essentials” that hinder people from living in harmony with each other (in the church)?

How does the way Jesus loves me provide a model for me to love others around me?

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS:

NIV – New International Version
NLT – New Living Translation

MESSAGE NOTES



Series: Context
Message: Unity
Speaker: Rusty Coram
Date: June 5/6, 2021

¹³ Now I am coming to you. I told them many things while I was with them in this world so they would be filled with my joy. ¹⁴ I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. ¹⁵ I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. ¹⁶ They do not belong to this world any more than I do. ¹⁷ Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth. ¹⁸ Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world. ¹⁹ And I give myself as a holy sacrifice for them so they can be made holy by your truth. ²⁰ I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. ²¹ I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. ²² I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. ²³ I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me. ²⁴ Father, I want these whom you have given me to be with me where I am. Then they can see all the glory you gave me because you loved me even before the world began! ²⁵ O righteous Father, the world doesn't know you, but I do; and these disciples know you sent me. ²⁶ I have revealed you to them, and I will continue to do so. Then your love for me will be in them, and I will be in them.

John 17:13-26 (NLT)

³⁴ So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. ³⁵ Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.
John 13:34–35 (NLT)

Unity is a powerful example of what God can do with lives that are surrendered to Him.

If we show real unity, it's a major attraction.

If we don't, it becomes a huge obstacle.

⁵ May God, who gives this patience and encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other, as is fitting for followers of Christ Jesus. ⁶ Then all of you can join together with one voice, giving praise and glory to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Romans 15:5-6 (NLT)

Building unity is a deliberate and ongoing choice.

¹ Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. ² Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. ³ Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. ⁴ For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. ⁵ There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all, in all, and living through all.

Ephesians 4:1–6 (NLT)

In the essentials, we agree with each other.

In the non-essentials, we accept each other.

In all issues, we love each other.

We can choose to let differences divide and destroy or we can take the high road.

¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.

Romans 12:17–18 (NIV)

The Lord's Supper is a time to re-commit to the unity that God desires, deserves and demands.