



“Intentional Unity”

Spring Circle Groups | Week 3

OPEN IN PRAYER & ICEBREAKER

MESSAGE SUMMARY

Welcome back to another week of Circle Groups! This week, we discuss “Intentional Unity.” On the last night of Jesus’ life, knowing that the end was drawing near, He prayed one last time for all believers. Jesus did not pray for our success, our safety, or our happiness. Rather, His prayer was for us to be in unity. He prayed that His disciples would love one another and become so connected that they resembled His relationship with Father God. As a church, we have much room to grow until we resemble Christ’s original prayer. In this day and age of division and offense, intentional unity is essential..., especially within the Church. As we learn the true meaning of unity and carry it out, then and only then will we walk in the power and influence that Christ’s body (the local church) was meant to have. Let’s get started!

Key Scriptures:

- John 17:20-21
- John 13:35

Point # 1 – Christ’s Prayer for Unity includes You and Me

As the Body of Christ, God has called us all to dwell with one another in Unity. With so much racial prejudice, systemic injustice, and other acts of hatred going on in our world, it is easy to get desensitized to the true meaning of unity and love. It’s easy to get lost in the division and forget Jesus’ final prayer. Dwelling in unity must start from our hearts first, to demonstrate unity in our everyday lives.

- **Read Ephesians 4:13; Philippians 2:3-4**
- **Question: Now that we know God is calling us to be unified, what is the One thing we can do to create or cultivate unity within our home, relationships, community, and church? How might living this way challenge your cultural norms?**

Point #2 – Bear the Fruit of Gentleness

Being gentle toward others goes a long way in a conversation, in a relationship, and a situation. According to Proverbs, a gentle answer turns away wrath. Walking in the fruit of the spirit will speak volumes to those around us and help us foster unity not only in our relationships but with everyone that we meet. When we choose to hold our tongues



rather than lash out on others, at others but rather be kind, we choose gentleness every time.

- **Read Proverbs 15:1; Colossians 4:5-6; Galatians 5:22-23**
- **Question: Share of a time when you chose to operate in gentleness instead of anger in a relationship? What was the outcome and how did the other person respond to you? How might unity in the church attract others to Christ?**

Point #3 – Choose the Culture of the Kingdom

Imagine if we all chose to love like God, rather than staying in the comfort zones of our opinions? Imagine what the Body of Christ will look like and how transformed we would all be! The best way to seek unity in our relationships is to love like Christ and seek peace with our fellow man. We have to purpose to love people for who they are (who God created them to be) not for what they do. This is the culture of the Kingdom!

- **Read Matthew 22:36-40; 1 Corinthians 13:4-7**
- **Question: According to these verses, what do true unity and agape love consist of? How does the culture of the kingdom differ from the culture of this world? In what areas are you being challenged to operate differently toward people who may not look or act like you?**

CONCLUSION

God is calling all of us to be in unity and to love unconditionally. Are you ready to take the challenge? As believers, we must take every opportunity to approach difficult situations from a place of agape love and gentleness, rather than anger and frustration. The blood of Christ unifies us and can break any barriers that the enemy intends. As we purpose to operate in God's desire for unity, the church will lead the way for reconciliation and create an atmosphere to win souls and advance Gods' Kingdom.

Imagine the impact that this act of obedience can have on our lives and those in the world around us!

- **Challenge:** This week, let's practice intentional unity by choosing to understand others rather than being understood ourselves. When you encounter someone that challenges your patience, choose a gentle approach instead of a critical one. **Take note of what happens and come ready to discuss next week!**

Announcements:

- **Happy Women's History Month** – We are grateful for the moms, daughters, aunts, and ladies of Relentless Church. Be sure to go out of your way to show the ladies in your life honor this month!



- **The Gathering** – Announcing “The Gathering,” a bi-weekly bible study hosted by Relentless Leadership. Go deeper in God’s word by participating on Tuesdays. [Click for more info!](#)
- **Loads of Love:** Loads of Love is back, and we need your help! With your donations last year, we were able to provide free washing & drying services for 5 laundromats and over 600 laundry supplies were given out as well. [Click here for more details!](#)

CLOSE IN PRAYER