

## THE POWER OF UNITY

Let's develop a Kingdom mindset and work in harmony together to advance God's Kingdom.

### KEY POINTS

- ❖ Many people pray for God to unify the church, but unity *requires action on our part*. We can't expect God to rain unity from heaven.
- ❖ Unity requires us to come together with a single-minded focus towards a common goal. It requires us to work together and function as one unit.
- ❖ In order to achieve true unity, we must give up our own agendas and let go of our egos, for the greater good, to accomplish the task at hand.
- ❖ We cannot be unified if we distrust those whom we are working with. For unity to be achieved, we must all be pulling in the same direction and working towards the same goal. There cannot be any doubt in our minds as to what our purpose and our goal is.
- ❖ Unity requires everyone not just to be focused on the same goal, but to work together in harmony towards achieving that goal.
- ❖ In Genesis 11:1-9, the people building the Tower of Babel were so united that it got God's attention – and they were doing something based on their own self-interests and pride.
- ❖ Imagine how much more God would move among us if we were truly united in the cause of His Kingdom! There is something about unity that God can't ignore.
- ❖ We sing, "You're my brother, you're my sister so take me by the hand. Together we will work until He comes. There's no foe that can defeat us when we are walking side by side. As long as there is love we will stand." But do we truly understand the power that lies in these words?
- ❖ True unity not only requires us to work together in harmony, but it also requires us to identify our gifts and talents and operate in them. If we are to build the Kingdom of God, everyone needs to jump on board with whatever skills and talents they have been given to move things forward. Everyone must develop a Kingdom-minded focus to push ahead.
- ❖ Unity is achieved when we all put our hands to the plow and our shoulders to the wheel and do our part to advance the Kingdom of God.
- ❖ The power of unity moves God to action!
- ❖ A Kingdom mindset is one that looks at things from God's point of view. A Kingdom mindset isn't thinking about filling this building, but is focused on filling heaven. A Kingdom mindset isn't focused on acquiring things for me alone, but on how I can use the things I acquire to advance the Kingdom of God.

### KEY SCRIPTURE: Genesis 11:1-9

- ❖ A Kingdom mindset will cause us to be givers and not takers ("net-positive contributors").
- ❖ A Kingdom mindset will cause us to be assets, not liabilities, to our neighbourhoods, our workplaces, and our communities at large.
- ❖ In order to accomplish that mindset change, we need to heed Paul's instructions in Romans 12:1-2:  
Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.  
<sup>2</sup>Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.
- ❖ Prayer transforms us, renews us and helps us to develop that Kingdom mindset. If we are all praying the same prayer – "Lord, help me to see what You see, help me to find my place in the body of Christ, so I can use my skills and talents to further Your Kingdom" – God will hear us and show us His vision. Not *a* vision, but *His* vision.
- ❖ And once we have captured His vision and start working together with a single-minded focus, in harmony, God will turn towards 1901 Jane St. (or wherever you may be) and say: "I must go and see what these people are doing." Where there is unity, God shows up.
- ❖ We will see miracles, signs and wonders. When God shows up, He will move. God can't help but *do* something when He sees unity.

### DISCUSSION/REFLECTION TOOLS

1. Read Genesis 11:1-9. i) What do we learn about
  - a. the people's attitude/reason for building?
  - b. what God observed and how He responded?
 ii) What made God's response so effective?
2. What can we understand about unity from
  - a) Acts 2:1-3, and b) 1 Corinthians 12:12-14 (and other examples, e.g. Nehemiah 3, 4:6, of unity).
3. What is *one thing* you can do to increase living in unity? Put that one thing into action this week.

### PRAYER TIME

Lord, help me to exercise love and a spirit of unity with my brothers and sisters, for the sake of Your Kingdom. In Jesus' name. amen.

Start-up: When making a cake, have you ever used less/more than the given ingredients and/or baked it for less/more than the required time? Share.

## WEEK OF SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 2022

### NOTES

Meditate as you read through/listen to this week's message. If it helps, use symbols for your notes.

✓ (Reminds me/Confirms)    💡 (New idea)    ☁️ (Think about)

! (Do this)    ❤️ (Speaks to my heart)    ↔️ (Must share)

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### PRAYER NEEDS/THANKSGIVINGS

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Go deeper with your Life Group family.  
CONNECT-REFLECT-DISSECT THE WORD  
Your Life Group ~ Your Lifeline