

Connect Group Studies



'Bringing God and people together'

Unity

Icebreaker: What are some of the craziest things people fight or argue over?

Jesus prayer for us is found in Jn.17:20-21 *"I don't pray for these alone, **but also for those who will believe in Me through their word, that they may be one, as You Father are in Me, and I in You, that they also may be one in Us, that they world may believe that You sent Me."***

Some people say that this is the only prayer that Jesus prayed that we can answer!

Q. Why is unity so difficult to achieve?

Ps.133 says that unity is a place where God commands the blessing.

This would be equally true whether it be a football team or a marriage.

Jesus said that every house that is divided will not stand! (Matt.12:25)

There are 3 different areas where each of us can seek unity.

1. We can seek to have unity within our own lives.

The problem with the Pharisees of Jesus day was that the inside thinking did not match their outward actions. It's never good when we say one thing with our lips and do another with our lives.

James says that a double minded man should not expect anything from the Lord.

Q. How can we control our mind or our desires?

2. We can seek to have unity with other people.

The disciples were fishermen who spent a lot of time mending their nets. A net is a number of strands that have been crossed, woven, knotted, stretched and tested.

Just as a net pulls together to hold the fish so to it is our relationships that build faith in others! Note Jesus' prayer.

Some things can really rip nets apart. They would include

- a) A loose Tongue

- b) Unforgiveness
- c) Unresolved conflicts
- d) Poor communication
- e) Immaturity

Q What are some things that we can all do to mend the nets (our relationships) and keep them in good condition?

3. We can all seek to have a greater unity with God.

It would be true to say that a lot of what God asks us to do would be impossible to do in our own strength.

See Matt.5:46

Q What would be the differences between a believer in Jesus and a disciple of Jesus?