

God's Gift of Unity

Psalm 133

July 26, 2020

I. The Goodness and Pleasantness of God's Unity

A. Main Points:

1. God's unity is _____ and _____.
2. God's unity is a gift.
3. God's unity is life-giving.

B. Clarification #1: The means of Christian unity is _____.

1. Psalm of Ascent 122:6-9
2. 1 John 4:19-21

C. Clarification #2: Not all unity is _____.

1. Psalm of Ascent 125:2-5
2. Psalm 130:1-4

D. Clarification #3: Not all division is _____.

1. Luke 12:49-53
2. Romans 16:17
3. Psalm of Ascent 120:6-7

E. Clarification #4: Unity does not always mean _____.

1. Psalm of Ascent 122:1-4

II. What Does All this Mean?

- A. All God's worshipers are God's _____ living in God's _____ (Ephesians 4:1-6).

Group Discussion

1. What are your initial takeaways from reading Psalm 133?
2. Verse one tells us when the Israelites worshiped together in the temple the unity they experienced was “good,” meaning morally right, ethically excellent, or truthful. That being said, is all unity good? Is there such a thing as unity that is bad?
3. What makes the unity that comes from God good unity as opposed to bad unity?
4. Read 1 John 4:19-21. Can Christian unity happen without love? Why?
5. What are some things that often threaten Christian unity?
6. Verses two and three compare the pleasantness of God’s unity to precious oil and dew from a mountain. Why is unity in general such a pleasant thing to people? Why is it so important for Christians to have unity?
7. If God wanted Israel to be united, why did He divide them into 12 tribes? How are Christians ever supposed to be unified when God made us all look and behave so different?
8. As we have read and preached through the Psalms of Ascent, which have meant the most to you and why?
9. How can you hope in God as you go about having gospel connections, conversations, and conversions?

Recommended Reading for Further Study:

Read Ephesians 4 and 1 John 4:7-21

Church Bible Reading Plan

This Week: Read Judges 13-15 & 1 Samuel 1-3

The Next Two Months: Memorize Psalm 139:7-12

Update on School Supplies for Glendale American Elementary School

GAES is a Title I school on 55th Ave and Butler we began partnering with in 2018. Apollo church members have donated school supplies, repainted sports surfaces, donated sporting equipment, repaired broken items, and other acts of service. The Principal and Vice Principal have both voiced extreme gratitude Apollo’s partnership. This year, we will be feeding all of their teaching staff once a month in addition to giving school supplies. In the interest of getting the most amount of supplies, we are extending our supplies drive to August 5th. To help you donate the most needed supplies, here is a breakdown of the donations provided thus far:

Items Received	#	Items Received	#	Items Received	#
Shoe Box Sized Containers	16	Lysol Spray	0	Dry Erase Markers	66
Sanitizing Wipes	2	Pencils	730	Pencil Sharpeners	19
Hand Sanitizer Gel/Wipes	42	Pencil Boxes	21	Glue Sticks	248
Two-Pocket Folders	111	Crayons	126	Loose Leaf Paper	54
3-Ring Binders (Any Size)	50	Boxes of Markers	40	Spiral Composition Notebooks	124
Tissues/Kleenex	50	Erasers	50	Ball Point Pens	133

Excerpt from Most Recent Email from the Principal:

As you know, sometimes just showing extra love and support goes a long way--you never know who you might impact to take a step towards God just by doing that. I love the relationship we have--feels so positive and honest. Thank you for that! It's going to be a difficult year for sure. But, mostly, I'm excited. Excited for many new faces/teachers on campus and building a strong team amongst the unknown. Excited for kids to get back to learning, whatever that looks like. Excited to take on my 5th year as principal of GA!

– Dr. Amy Troutt