

Who is Jesus? The Gospel of John

February 21st, 2021

Jeff Bruce, Lead Pastor

Jesus' Vision for Unity (John 17:20-26)

1. The *pattern* for unity

2. The *process* of unity

3. The *path* to unity

4. The *purpose* of unity

For Further Thought and Discussion:

Getting Started:

1. What was helpful to you in this week's sermon? What didn't you understand?
2. Think of some of the various teams you've been on. When have you felt truly aligned with the people on a team (e.g. in sports, in your family, at work, in an organization, etc)? Why did you feel that way?

Going Deeper:

3. What kind of unity does Jesus want us to experience (see John 17:21, 23; see also John 10:30; John 14:10-11)? What kind of unity does Jesus experience with his Father? What's our standard for unity? How does this change our mindset in pursuing unity?
4. What's Jesus' role in the unity of the church (see Ephesians 2:14-17)? What's our role (see John 17:23; compare Ephesians 4:1-3). What has Jesus already done to unify us as a people? How do we make this unity visible?
5. *Why* does Jesus pray that we would be unified (vv. 21, 23)? What's the purpose of our unity? Why is the unity of the church vital to the church's mission?

Application:

6. Christian unity is not uniformity. How does the Trinity demonstrate this? Why is this important to keep in mind? What are some implications of this for the church?
7. Read Philippians 2:1-11. Why is unity costly? What cost did it entail for Jesus? Why might it be costly for us?
8. In the hopes of experiencing unity, some people emphasize truth ("*we must believe the same things*"), others emphasize love ("*we must love each other well*"), and still others emphasize action ("*we must be active in the same causes*")? Which have you tended to emphasize? Which have you tended to underemphasize? Why are all three necessary?