

Life Group Notes & Discussion Guide, January 11, 2026

“The One Thing”

“The Purpose of Unity”

Sermon Text: **John 17:20-26**; Old Testament Text: **Psalm 133:1-3**; New Testament Text: **Romans 15:5-7**.

1. In **John 17:20**, for whom is Jesus praying?

2. Why should every believer in Christ find this verse amazing?

3. In **John 17:21**, for what is Jesus praying when he prays, “***that they may all be one?***”

4. In that same verse, how does Jesus describe the unity He longs for His Church to have?

5. What does Jesus claim the world will know when His Church is unified in this manner?

6. In **John 17:22**, to what is Jesus referring when He says, “***The glory that you have given me I have given to them?***”

7. In this verse, how does Jesus say He wants His Church unified.

8. In **John 17:23**, what two things does Jesus say the world will know when His Church is *perfectly one*?

9. In **John 17:24**, what is Jesus praying for those who believe in Him?

10. What does Jesus mean in **John 17:24**, when He says, “*because you loved me before the foundation of the world?*”

11. According to **John 17:25**, what should every believer know beyond a shadow of a doubt?

12. **John 17:26** is a promise from Jesus. As a follower of Jesus Christ, how does that promise make you feel?

13. What will you remember most from this message?

Discussion Guide for Your Life Group Meeting

- I. At your Life Group meeting, first read **Psalm 133:1-3** aloud. It can be helpful to have several people each read one verse from their Bible. This helps people feel involved and can also introduce some interesting discussion if several translations are used. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
 1. According to **Psalm 133:1**, how should God's Church view Church unity?
 2. In **Psalm 133:2**, what does the oil poured over Aaron's head symbolize?
 3. If this is used as a simile of what Church unity will be like, what (or who) should we expect to be abundantly present in a unified Church?
 4. Read **Psalm 133:3**. Mount Hermon was the highest peak in biblical Israel. Why would the Israelites associate this mountain with God's blessings?
 5. If **Psalm 133:2** speaks of spiritual blessings, what type of blessings are described in **Ps. 133:3**?
 6. Read **Deuteronomy 30:15-20**? What does this passage tell us is required of believers daily?
 7. How would these daily decisions affect Church unity?

- II. Next read **Romans 15:5-7**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
 1. **Romans 15:5** ascribes two qualities to God. What are they and why would they be so important to people seeking to live in unity with God?
 2. According to **Romans 15:5**, what must we do to be able to *live in such harmony with one another?*
 3. According to **Romans 15:6**, what will be the result of living in such unity?
 4. How could living out **Romans 15:7** help to expand and unify the Church?
 5. How would you rate yourself in your ability to welcome others into God's Kingdom?
 6. If you struggle in this area, what do you think is holding you back?
 7. What does v. 7 tell us happens when we truly welcome others into Christ's Church?

- III. Read **John 17:20-26**, utilizing several group members to each read one verse aloud. After reading the passage discuss it. If you are having trouble stimulating discussion, you can try asking some of the following questions:
 1. In **John 17:20**, for whom is Jesus praying?
 2. Why should every believer in Christ find this verse amazing?
 3. In **John 17:21**, for what is Jesus praying when he prays, "***that they may all be one?***"

4. In that same verse, how does Jesus describe the unity He longs for His Church to have?
5. What does Jesus claim the world will know when His Church is unified in this manner?
6. In **John 17:22**, to what is Jesus referring when He says, “***The glory that you have given me I have given to them?***”
7. In this verse, how does Jesus say He wants His Church unified.
8. In **John 17:23**, what two things does Jesus say the world will know when His Church is ***perfectly one?***
9. In **John 17:24**, what is Jesus praying for those who believe in Him?
10. What does Jesus mean in **John 17:24**, when He says, “***because you loved me before the foundation of the world?***”
11. According to **John 17:25**, what should every believer know beyond a shadow of a doubt?
12. **John 17:26** is a promise from Jesus. As a follower of Jesus Christ, how does that promise make you feel?