Course Schedule

Class 1: Diversity?  Unity?  For God's Sake!

Class 2: How God Builds Unity and Diversity

Class 3: The Image of God in Our Unity and Diversity

Class 4: God’s Purposes for Similarity in the Church

Class 5: **Counsel for Christians in the Minority**   
Class 6: Counsel for Christians in the Majority

Class 7: Working Through Disunity

*If you have questions or comments on this class, please contact:*

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**Core Seminar**

**Unity and Diversity in the Local Church**

***Class 5: Counsel for Christians in the Minority***

**I. Introduction: How can we love others coming from the backgrounds of the majority or the minority?**

9Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. 10Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. 11Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. 12Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. 13Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.” –Romans 12:9-13

* According to Rom. 12:9-13, our love for each other in the church should be…
  + Genuine (v. 9)
  + Self-forgetting (v. 10)
  + Zealous (v. 11)
  + Constant (v. 12)
  + Sacrificial (v. 13)

**II. Genuine in Affection**

“9Let love be genuine.”

**II. Self-Forgetting**

“10Outdo one another in showing honor.”

Helpful things for minorities to keep in mind:

1. There are many types of minorities.
2. Jesus should completely define us.
3. Jesus was a minority, too (Heb. 4:15-16)

**III. Zealous**

“11Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.”

Zealously loving as a minority can look like:

* + Creating solutions, not just criticizing them (Phil. 2:14).
  + Starting the conversation (Matt. 18:15-20).
  + Continuing the conversation (James 1:19).
  + Assuming the best and accepting help (1 Cor. 13:7)

Book suggestion: “Beyond Racial Gridlock” by George Yancey   
(IVP Books, 2006)

**IV. Constant**

“12Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.”

**V. Sacrificial**

“13Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.”