

# UNITY IN CHRIST

## BIG IDEA

Don't just listen, that is the beginning. Move forward and ask the question, "What can I do to bring about equality?"

## SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12:25-26

## OPENER

Diversity leads to **disunity** when the members **compete** with one another; but diversity leads to **unity** when the members **care** for one another. In 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 Paul provides the foundation of our unity in Christ. Discuss as a group what the verses mean and how we can better incorporate this truth in the context of our church body. Beyond our congregation, in the larger body of Christ, how can we participate with and care for other believers who may look and live differently than we do? Don't focus on feelings and/or emotions, but rather try to develop concrete, doable solutions.

## QUESTIONS

1. Throughout His life, Jesus' actions showed that He believed: Samaritan lives' matter, Gentile lives' matter, Jewish lives' matter, children's lives matter, women's lives matter, and lepers' lives matter. Why is it so difficult for many people to say, "Black Lives Matter?"
2. How do you separate "Black Lives Matter" protests for the murder of George Floyd, from the rioting and looting that has occurred at some of the demonstrations? How does Christ want us to look at this and how should we act?
3. How many of us have had a conversation with our kids about how to conduct themselves if they are stopped by a police officer? If so, was it a warning about respecting the police or fearing the police and what they might do to you? Discuss.
4. The white members of our society are naturally blind to some of the ways they are privileged in our culture, because it simply just seems normal. As we look at the issue of systemic oppression/racism, how do we understand what has and is being experienced by our black brothers and sisters? What steps can we take to put real action with our faith? How can we be actively anti-racist? (see James 1:5, 18-20; 2:14-26; 3:17-18)
5. In Luke 10:27, Jesus said that the two greatest commands are to 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind'; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself'. Give a short statement on how you plan to follow these commandments in the coming week and into the future.

## TAKEAWAY

We're in a New Era, where we need a Connection Pointe, to make the world a better place!

To whom much is given, much is expected. You have more influence than you think! Everyone should seek the Holy Spirit and to do something to help provide needed healing (do your part).

God hates racism, but not being racist isn't enough. We need to be actively anti-racist. Dr. Martin Luther King said, "we will not remember the words of our enemies...we will remember the silence of our friends."

## REFERENCES

- 2 Chronicles 7:14
- Mark 3:25, 14:50, 15:21
- Luke 10:25-37, 12:48, 23:26
- John 4:1-30, 17:20-23
- Acts 2:1 (KJV)
- 1 Corinthians 12:12-27
- Galatians 1:10, 3:26-29
- Ephesians 5:1-2, 5:25-31

If you would like more copies of this Small Group Study, they are available at <https://www.connectionpointe.org/series/faith-walker/>

Are you interested in leading a new small group beginning in August 2020? If so, our Small Groups Team would love to talk with you about the possibilities. Contact us to set up a time to chat.

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