

SERMON NOTES

Date: January 13, 2019

Title: An Appeal for Unity

Text: 1 Corinthians 1:10

Big Idea: Unity is achievable if we keep Christ at the center.

DISCUSS THE ISSUE

What kinds of issues and arguments tend to cause division in the church? Why do these differences tend to go from disagreements to divisions?

Have you ever been in a position, either inside or outside the church, where you felt that you had to take sides in a dispute? What made that situation difficult and how were people affected?

EXPLORE THE TEXT

Paul bases his appeal for unity on “the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.” Why is this so important to achieving and maintaining the kind of unity God desires for his people?

Paul describes some of the causes of disunity that plagued the Corinthians in 1:11-12 and 3:1-4. What other causes of disunity can you identify in the following passages?

- 1 Corinthians 6:1
- 1 Corinthians 11:17-22
- Acts 15:1-35
- James 4:1-3

What do the following passages say about how unity can be achieved and preserved?

- Ephesians 4:2-3
- 1 Peter 3:8

APPLY THE TRUTH

Think of a situation in your life or in a relationship that could be potentially explosive. What do you need to do to maintain genuine unity with that person and in that situation?

What is the first step you could take to heal a damaged relationship with another Christian?

How can you help the leaders of Riverview build and maintain the unity church?

COMMIT THIS WEEK

Jesus prayed that we would be one even and he and the Father are one (John 17:11). Spend some time meditating on the oneness of the Godhead and the implications that it has for your own life and relationships with other believers. Write a prayer of unity for your relationships, family, marriage, or church.