

WHAT DOES JESUS WANT FOR SPRING VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH?

• Jesus wants us to have _____.

JOHN 17:20-23 – Jesus prayed, “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, ²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one— ²³ I in them and you in me— so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.

Jesus never said we would be known by our rituals, knowledge, buildings, or traditions. He said we would be known as a true Christian by our love for each other.

JOHN 13:34-35 – Jesus said, “A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. ³⁵ By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

JOHN 15:12-14 – Jesus said, “My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³ Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command.”

WHAT DESTROYS UNITY?

• _____ and _____

The same John who wrote about love and unity is the one who acted selfishly and caused disunity among the disciples.

MARK 10:35-45

MATTHEW 20:20-28

MARK 9:33-34

LUKE 22:24

WHAT DOES BIBLICAL UNITY LOOK LIKE?

Most people think the way to achieve unity is for everyone else to think and act like them.

• Biblical unity means we have the same _____.

1) We all _____ and _____ Jesus.

JOHN 14:15, 23-24 – Jesus said, “If you love me, keep my commands. ²³ Jesus replied, “Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching.”

2) We honor others above ourselves _____

Philippians 2:1-8 - If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, ² then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility value others above yourselves, ⁴ Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of the others.

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped; ⁷ but made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!

• The goal of unity is for the world to be _____.

JOHN 17:21, 23 – Jesus prayed, “May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”