



WEEK SEVEN: WE UNITE

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What is "church"? As we continue through the book of Acts, we see people respond to the Holy Spirit. In the last couple weeks, we have seen how important it is that ***we commit*** and ***we pray*** as a church. Once the commitment is made to one another and to prayer, it's imperative that ***we unite*** as one Body to move forward with God's purpose.

Where Am I Today?

- 1) What is the difference between being unified and being clones of each other?

- 2) In Cove 101 we teach, "In essential beliefs, we have unity." What beliefs do you consider to be essential?

Into the Bible

- 3) **Read** Acts 6:1-4. What might the early church have looked like if they weren't unified in their mission?



- 4) Unity can be difficult to maintain, but it is crucial for the health of the church. It does not happen spontaneously, as do conflict and chaos, but must be pursued. **Read** the following passages where it's exemplified. What is the purpose of unity?
- a. Romans 15:5-6
 - b. 1 Corinthians 1:10
 - c. 1 Corinthians 11:17-18
 - d. Ephesians 4:1-3, 11-13
 - e. 1 Peter 3:8-9

How Does This Apply?

- 5) It is impossible for everyone to agree on everything, especially as The Cove Church gets larger and has more campuses farther apart geographically. How can we maintain unity as a Life Group and church when we disagree?
- 6) What are some of the risks of not maintaining unity within the church body?
- 7) What does the church look like to the outside world when we are embroiled in conflict?



Digging Deeper: Going Further on Your Own

- 8) The Bible has outlined specific principles for the resolution of conflict. Look at the following passages to see how to pursue peace and keep our actions glorifying God, even in the midst of conflict, hurt, and misunderstandings.

Matthew 18:16-20

1 Corinthians 6:1-8

Matthew 5:23-24

Romans 12:18

For more details about The Cove's relational commitments, visit www.covechurch.org/corevalues