

VISION 2020 – Pray for Comm-Unity

Introduction: Today's message is to remind us of **why** we exist and the **call** upon the NWCC family. All that we have taught this first month culminates in our message **Vision 2020! – Pray for Comm-unity!**

John 17:22-23 (ESV) - Prayer of Unity

v.22. The **glory** that you have given me I have given to them, that they **may be one** even as **we are one**, **v.23.** **I in them** and **you in me**, that they may become **perfectly one**, so that the world may **know** that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me."

Review

Message #1 – Seek God **F.I.R.S.T.** in **2020**

Message #2 – Unchurch the Church in **2020**

Message #3 – Hearing the Voice of God in **2020**

"What are the **competing** voices you hear?"

Message: Vision **2020** - Pray for "Comm-**Unity**."

Unity Principle:

- 1) A person is a person by other persons
- 2) My purpose is united with your purpose
- 3) What affects one directly, affects all of us indirectly
- 4) I make your interests my interests
- 5) No one is left alone

Nothing is impossible through unity – Genesis 11:6

Unity is when we are **one** in: messenger, message, and mission.

Uniformity is when we all **unite** on **what** we're doing, **how** we're doing it, **where** we going to do it, **when** we're going to do it and **why** we're doing it.

Message: Pray for our comm-**unity** in Christ – Acts 4:32

Points to Message:

1. Unity by **Culture** – Beliefs and Behavior – Acts 2:41-42

Unity: Devoted to four pillars of the church:

- a) Evangelism – received word and baptism
- b) Discipleship – apostles' doctrine
- c) Partnership – fellowship-joint-sharer
- d) Worship – **communion** and prayer

2. Unity by **Covenant** – Walking in Agreement – I Corinthians 11:25

Covenant is an **agreement** that **unites** two or more people to **become one**.

We're **united** together in Christ's Body to **become one**:

We agree to:

- Promote – We **uphold** our church family
- Protect – We **cover** our church family
- Prosper – We **bless** our church family

3. Unity by **C.O.R.E.** values – Our Foundation

Christlikeness – Maturity in Christ - Romans 8:29

Outreach – Ministry of Reconciliation - II Corinthians 5:16

Relationship – Love one another - St. John 13:34

Excel – Gifts and Talents “standout” - Matthew 5:16

Psalms 133:1-3 (ESV)

v.1. Behold, how **good** and **pleasant** it is when brothers dwell in **unity!** **v.2.** It is like the **precious oil** on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes! **v.3.** It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For **there** the Lord has **commanded the blessing, life forevermore.**

Takeaway

Our Comm-unity – Christ
Our Covenant – Promote, Protect & Prosper
Our Connection – Grouped together
Our Conduct – Love
Our Commission – Discipleship
Our Culture – Biblical worldview
Our Consummation – Kingdom of God

Life Group Discussions

1. Discuss what comm-unity means
2. Discuss the difference between unity and uniformity
3. Discuss why uniformity is difficult and why it is resisted
4. Discuss unity in culture
5. Discuss unity by covenant
6. Discuss unity by C.O.R.E. Values
7. Discuss how unity and uniformity works at the NWCC