

Week Three: United We Stand; Divided We Fall

SINS WE PROTECT

1 Corinthians 1:10-13

“Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them which are of the house of Chloe, that there are contentions among you. Now this I say, that every one of you saith, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ. Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?”

Introduction:

At the beginning of this last week, I was spending time in prayer and asking God to give me a good opening illustration for this morning’s message. Little did I know how He would answer! At the end of this last week, I had the amazing opportunity to fly to West Virginia and run with a group of runners in a *200 mile race* through the Appalachian mountains! It was a great experience that I will never forget. You might ask, what would possess 8 (or at least 7) sane grown men to go and run a 200 mile race through the mountains of West Virginia? Why would we do this?

Well, primarily, the purpose of traveling, trekking, and traversing those miles was to raise some funds for a missions project in Mexico. And hopefully to also raise awareness to the need. But also, this trip was a chance to fellowship with other believers in Christ and to be able to say that we accomplished an incredible feat - TOGETHER. I have run some pretty long distances in my life, but I have never run 200 miles by myself and lived to tell about it! This team of 8 runners did something TOGETHER that we could have NEVER done *alone*.

Main Truth: The church only moves forward together. It will only impact the culture to its greatest depth when it’s members are united in their desire, direction, and the declaration of the gospel of God’s grace.

1 Corinthians 1:17-18

“For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect. For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the power of God.”

1 Corinthians 1:22-25

“For the Jews require a sign, and the Greeks seek after wisdom: But we preach Christ crucified, unto the Jews a stumblingblock, and unto the Greeks foolishness; But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God, and the wisdom of God. Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men; and the weakness of God is stronger than men.”

1 Corinthians 3:3

“For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?”

Ecclesiastes 4:9,12

“Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. And if one prevail against him, two shall withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.”

Unity: The Primary Condition for Impacting the Culture

I. What Is _____?

II. Why do we Need _____?

III. How do we Get _____?

IV. How do we Keep _____?

Conclusion:

“Has it ever occurred to you that one hundred pianos all tuned to the same fork are automatically tuned to each other? They are of one accord by being tuned, not to each other, but to another standard to which each one must individually bow. So one hundred worshipers met together, each one looking away to Christ, are in heart nearer to each other than they could possibly be, were they to become 'unity' conscious and turn their eyes away from God to strive for closer fellowship.” — A.W. Tozer, The Pursuit of God



Wednesday Evenings at 6:45pm

There’s a lot of life lived between Sundays. By the time we come back to church a week later, we’re tired and worn out—we’re in need of encouragement, refreshment, and community. Our Midweek worship service exists to meet that need. Midweek is an hour-long informal gathering to sing and hear about God’s amazing grace, and connect with one another. Join us this week for this gathering where the whole family is together.

June 28 is our Annual “Friend Day” here at Fairview Baptist Church. Evangelist Dave Young will be with us for this day. Pick up invite cards today!

join us for
friend day

the best gift a friend can give