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Guest Speaker from Nairobi, Kenya

Life Group Discussion Questions – March 17, 2024

1 Corinthians 1:10 *Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.*

DISCOVER

1. How do you define unity? What should be the basis for unity in the church and amongst believers? What is the common purpose that should always bring believers together? How might unity in the church differ from sharing a common purpose in the secular world? Under what circumstances can unity lead in the wrong direction?
2. What is the difference between unity and uniformity? In the past, Pastor Phil has brought to our attention the different strengths amongst the churches in Auburn. How can differences between churches lead to more people coming to belief in Jesus Christ?

EXPLORE

1. Read Ephesians 4:11-16 and 1 Corinthians 12:12-13. How does a variety of spiritual gifts benefit the church? Why do we sometimes struggle to attain unity in the faith? What are some examples of being "tossed here and there by waves"? How does speaking truth in love play into the fellowship of believers? Describe a situation where someone spoke truth in love to you even though it was difficult to hear? How did you grow from the experience?
2. Read Colossians 3:12-14. In a broken world, why is forgiveness necessary for unity? The secular world is driven by ambition and getting ahead which sometimes leads to trampling of those who are less aggressive. Read Romans 12:16. How should the church lift up the least of those that join us in fellowship? Is it sometimes beneficial for reserved or common people to be leaders in church? Explain.
3. Read Ephesians 4:1-6. We are to be humble, gentle, patient and bear with one another in love. Which of these challenges you the most? What might go wrong if we fall short in these character traits? Describe someone in our church that makes every effort to keep unity of the spirit. What can you learn from those who keep unity through a bond of peace?

EXPERIENCE

1. When should we express disagreement with fellow church members? How should we express our concerns? When should we stay quiet or be submissive instead of pressing to get our way? Under what circumstances should churches be united in opposition to secular behaviors or laws? Read Ezekiel 20:7-8.
2. In John 13:34-35, Jesus commanded us to love one another. If an outsider came into your group at this moment, would they see love for one another? How about at Auburn Grace? What evidence do you have to justify your response? In what ways are you called to be a unifying presence in church?
3. If there will be unity in heaven then why not now within your family and church? Ask God if there is anyone with whom you should make peace. And as much as you are able, live at peace with them.

PRAY

Pray... 'Our Father who is in heaven, Hallowed be Your name. 'Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. 'Give us this day our daily bread. 'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. 'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. [For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.]