



DR. LUKE
remedies for a hurting world

Unity

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2020

Key Scriptures: Luke 6:12–16

DISCUSSION GUIDE

We live in a contentious and divided world. The way we deal with life and people and our attitude as we face these challenges are choices we make. We can control our attitude and our choices. The Church should be a model of unity to the rest of the world. Unity is not sameness. This week, we read about Jesus' selection of the 12 apostles. They were impulsive, temperamental, easily offended, and had all the prejudices of their environment. Diverse? Yes! Different? Almost as different as any group could be? Absolutely! Was there the great potential for conflict? 100%! It's hard to imagine that they all got along all the time and yet they stayed on mission in order to accomplish the mission. Only Jesus could combine Philip the Hellenist (adopted Greek culture), Matthew the tax collector, and Simon the Zealot into one group and bring unity to that diverse group. **THEY WERE UNITED BY THE SPIRIT AND COMMITTED TO THE MISSION.** And it was this **UNITY** that made the mission possible, unity in spite of the significant diversity. Only an eternal mission will break through our earthly preferences. Unity fuels the mission.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Think back to Sunday's message. What do you remember? Review your notes if you have them. If you're with a life group, talk with them about anything you found memorable or confusing.
2. How did Jesus prepare for choosing the twelve?
3. What do we know about the men Jesus chose to be Apostles?
4. Read Philippians 2:1–4. Observe the text. What characteristics does Paul say identifies a group of believers and more specifically a local church. Why is it important that our lives give evidence of these character traits?
5. What causes the members of the church not to be united?
6. What are some ways we as a group could live out verse 4?
7. Read John 17:20–21. What is the purpose for unity?
8. What can we do (individually and as a group) to promote unity among fellow Christians?
9. What's your biggest take away from Sunday's message and today's discussion?

NOW WHAT?

The 5 BEs (Ephesians 4:1–2):

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|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Be humble (listen) | Be gracious (allow mistakes) |
| Be gentle (pause) | Be active (pursue unity) |
| Be patient (wait willingly) | |

