

One Accord, One Place

Acts 2:1, NKJV | Unity • Kingdom Culture • Mission

*"When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with **one accord** in one place."*

INTRODUCTION — THE WATER WE SWIM IN

Culture is the _____ we swim in.

The danger is not that the fish lives in water; the danger is that the fish does not know it is _____.

When we stop recognizing culture as culture, we can begin calling our culture _____.

Instead of asking, "Jesus, what do You want?" we can ask Jesus to endorse what we already _____.

Unity happens when the _____ of _____ comes first.

1. WE ALL COME FROM SOMEWHERE

Matthew represented cooperation with _____; Simon the Zealot represented resistance to it.

Jesus did not call Matthew to become like Simon, or Simon to become like Matthew. He called both to become like _____.

Jesus was not building a community where everyone thought alike; He was building a community with the same _____.

Key phrase: We do not have to become like each other; we are both becoming like _____.

2. JESUS GIVES US A HIGHER CULTURE

Jesus repeatedly taught about the _____ of God.

Christianity is not Jesus becoming an accessory to my existing identity;
it is receiving a new primary identity in _____.

My nationality, politics, generation, preferences, and traditions may matter — but none of them gets the _____.

Before every other label, we belong to _____ — and therefore we belong to one another.

When cultures collide, which one wins?

The _____ comes first.

PERSONAL CHECK

When my preference competes with the mission, the **Kingdom of God** must be bigger than my preference.

What I have always done may be biblical — or it may simply be my _____.

3. A KINGDOM CULTURE CREATES A KINGDOM PEOPLE

Pentecost did not erase differences; the Spirit used different languages to proclaim one _____.

Different languages. One message. Different people. One Spirit. Different gifts. One _____.

The strongest witness may not be a church where everyone looks alike, but a church where different people deeply _____ one another.

We are not united because we are the same. We are united because we have the same _____.

One Lord. One Savior. One Spirit. One mission. One Kingdom. One _____.

BEFORE THE FIRE

Acts 2:1 says they were with one accord; Acts 2:2 says, “And suddenly there came a sound from _____.”

Could it be that sometimes we ask God for Acts 2:2 while resisting Acts 2: _____?

Before asking, “Lord, send the fire,” perhaps we first need to pray: “Lord, make us _____.”

At the foot of the cross, the ground is _____.

This church does not belong to me, the pastor, the board, the longest-time members, or the newest members.

This church belongs to _____.

MY RESPONSE

What is one part of my “water” — a preference, assumption, tradition, label, or habit — that Jesus may be asking me to surrender?

Is there a person or group I have kept at a distance because they are different from me? Who?

What would it look like this week for me to put the Kingdom before my preference?

THIS WEEK’S HOMEWORK — IDENTIFY YOUR WATER & CROSS IT

1. IDENTIFY YOUR WATER. Every day ask: “Jesus, show me one thing I think is biblical that may actually just be my preference or my culture.”

2. CROSS YOUR WATER. Before next Sabbath, intentionally connect with one person in this church outside your normal circle. Learn their story. Listen. Then ask: “Is there anything I can pray about for you this week?”

THIS WEEK, LET’S PRACTICE THE KINGDOM.

“Lord, make us one.”