

**The Truth That Transforms: The Book Of Romans**  
**“Building Unity”**  
**Cornerstone Church of Poway**  
**Pastor Ed Turley**  
**November 21, 2021**

**Big Idea:** If we want real life change, we must allow God’s Word to transform us.

**“Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”**  
**John 13:35 (NLT2)**

"My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them **may be one**, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me."  
**John 17:20-21 (NIV)**

**We Can Build Unity By:**

**1. Being Supportive Of Others Who Have A Heavy Load**

"We who are strong ought to **bear with the failings of the weak** and not to please ourselves. Each of us should please his neighbor **for his good, to build him up**. For even Christ **did not please himself** but, as it is written: ‘The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me.’" **Romans 15:1-3 (NIV)**

**“Share each other’s burdens**, and in this way obey the law of Christ. If you think you are too important to help someone, you are only fooling yourself. You are not that important. Pay careful attention to your own work, for then you will get the satisfaction of a job well done, and you won’t need to compare yourself to anyone else. For we are each responsible for our own conduct.”  
**Galatians 6:2-5 (NLT2)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Accepting Each Other As He Has Accepted Us**

"For everything that was written in the past was written **to teach us**, so that through **endurance** and the **encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope**. May the God who **gives endurance** and **encouragement** give you a **spirit of unity** among yourselves as you **follow Christ Jesus**, so that with **one heart and mouth** you **may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ**. **Accept one another**, then, just as **Christ accepted you**, in order to **bring praise to God**."  
**Romans 15:4-7 (NIV)**

“If you have any encouragement from **being united with Christ**, if any **comfort from his love**, if any **fellowship with the Spirit**, if any **tenderness and compassion**, then make my joy complete by being **like-minded**, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the **interests of others.**”

**Philippians 2:1-4 (NIV)**

“In this new life, it doesn’t matter if you are a Jew or a Gentile, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbaric, uncivilized, slave, or free. **Christ is all that matters**, and He lives in all of us.” **Colossians 3:11 (NLT)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

### **3. Worshiping Together As God’s Family**

“For I tell you that **Christ has become a servant** of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs so that the **Gentiles may glorify God for his mercy**, as it is written: "Therefore **I will praise you** among the Gentiles; **I will sing hymns to your name.**" Again, it says, "**Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people.**" And again, "**Praise the Lord**, all you Gentiles, and **sing praises to Him**, all you peoples." And again, Isaiah says, "The **Root of Jesse** will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; the **Gentiles will hope in him.**" **May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace** as you trust in him, so that you may **overflow with hope** by the power of the Holy Spirit.”

**Romans 15:8-13 (NIV)**

“Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.” **Ephesians 5:19-21 (NIV)**

Notes: \_\_\_\_\_

- **What do you have to give thanks for?**
- **How can you help others grow in faith and love?**

**I will help build unity by:**

- Praying for the spiritual growth of others
- Being friendly and welcoming people
- Living in harmony with other believers
- Accepting Christ as my Savior for the first time

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[This is only a guide – select the points you want to discuss.]

**Big Idea:** If we want real life change, we must allow God’s Word to transform us.

**Open your group with a prayer.**

**Icebreaker:** As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up?

**Read John 13:35 & John 17:20-21**

Why is love the key distinction of a follower of Jesus?

**We Can Build Unity By:**

**1. Being Supportive Of Others Who Have A Heavy Load**

**Read Romans 15:1-3**

Who has helped you in your failings in your spiritual walk?

**Read Galatians 6:2-5**

What are some practical ways we can help each other?

What are some burdens we have to carry on our own?

**2. Accepting Each Other As He Has Accepted Us**

**Read Romans 15:4-7**

How can we as a church exemplify unity?

How does acceptance of each other bring glory to God?

**Read Philippians 2:1-4**

Which of these attributes mentioned have you received from Jesus?

What does it mean to be like-minded in Jesus?

**Read Colossians 3:11**

Paul mentions some pretty big differences in this verse. What makes these differences obsolete?

**3. Worshiping Together As God's Family**

**Read Romans 15:8-13**

If you were to write a verse to a song giving praise for your salvation, what would it say?

What are some of your favorite worship songs?

Why?

**Close in Prayer:** Start praying. Be bold, and pray specifically.

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