

July 28 & 29, 2018 Ken Long, Senior Pastor

# **One Family**

"I do not ask for these only, but also for those **who will believe** in me through their word," John 17:20

Jesus' prayer encompasses the blueprint to "recapture" a rebellious planet for God. This involves three things:

#### 1. The Objective

"... so that the world may believe that you have sent me." John 17:21c

"... so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me." John 17:23b

"World Evangelism is the attempt to give every man an opportunity to make an intelligent choice of whether to receive or reject Jesus Christ." - World Evangelism Conference

## 2. The Strategy

"that they may all be **one**, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be **one** even as we are **one**, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me." John 17:21-23

"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." John 13:35

"And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be **one**, even as we are **one**." John 17:11

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It starts with <u>the disciples</u> and moves on to <u>coming</u> generations.

Union is an outward agreement.

Unity is **shared life**.

In other words, we are **<u>family</u>**.

# 3. The Tactics

"The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one," John 17:22

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. Ephesians 2:4-7

#### What is this "glory"?

"Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world." John 17:24

## Three qualities of genuine love:

#### A. Mutual contact.

"For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?" Matthew 5:46

## B. Mutual concern.

Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, 1 Peter 1:22

# C. Mutual <u>contribution</u>.

that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. 1 Corinthians 12:25

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