



## United in the Home – Message 1

### Announcements

**The Other Side: Getting Through Life's Storms** // Small group hosts and emerging leaders, grab some friends and host a group during our 2018 Community Series starting January 13-14. *The Other Side* is designed to help others overcome the storms of adversity, fear, anxiety, insecurity and doubt. Email: [smallgroups@churchoftheking.com](mailto:smallgroups@churchoftheking.com) or check your email for a message from Pastor Danny.

### Warm-up

What is your favorite childhood game and why?

This is the first message in our new series entitled *United*. We will gain fresh insight on how to genuinely live and relate to people different than us. In our home, in the church, and in our community, we can live *United*.

### Word and Application

Let us look at the power of living united and the consequences of living divided in our home. Unity brings people on the same page. We are powerful when we are one. Unity really starts with a vision and a vision is a compelling picture of a preferable future.

#### **Read Matthew 12:22-28.**

Jesus is using this moment to share a massive principle, the power of unity, the power of a home, a community, a kingdom, and a nation, being either united or divided.

Share with the group about a specific time when you feel the most connected to a group of people and how it makes you feel. How does that affect others around you?

Let's dig into Jesus' principle of unity in our time together.

### **1. Division *devours*.**

**Read Matthew 12:25 & Galatians 5:15.**

Unity really starts with a vision. A vision is a compelling picture of a preferable future. Division or Di-vision means 'two visions' and it destroys. Where there are two visions, there's nothing but discord. Division is two visions and it destroys. Division devours. We end up devouring one another when we are not on the same page, when we don't have one heart. What vision do we need as a nation to become unified?

### **2. Unity breeds tremendous *possibilities and progress*.**

**Read Psalm 133:1-3.**

Where division devours on one hand, unity has the opposite. Unity brings momentum, shared passion, energy, growth, and possibilities. The concept that we are better together really is true. When people get on the same page with a united heart, amazing things happen. That doesn't mean we don't ever see things differently. We can have unique perspectives, but share the same goals. Unity means your heart is joined with others and you're shooting for the same goal. What relationships are you trying to build? What is your vision for the relationship? How can you join your heart with that person to reach a common goal?

### **3. We *pray for and pursue* unity.**

**Read Ephesians 4:1-3.**

No one drifts into unity. We drift into chaos, confusion, and division. You have to pray for, work for, and contend for unity. How can serving and loving people bring unity? What other practical ways can you bring more unity in your home?

## **Three Practical Things To Enhance Unity**

### **1. Respect.**

**Read Romans 12:1.**

Honor and place value on others. Share with the group about a time when you had to stop and look at the other person's perspective and it brought unity. Why does respecting someone bring value to that person?

### **2. Release.**

**Read Romans 12:17.**

Walk in forgiveness. Don't be vengeful, but rather – release and forgive. Share with the group someone you need to forgive to bring unity to strengthen a relationship.

### **3. Resolve.**

**Read Romans 12:18.**

Learn to separate the issue from the person. What are some practical ways you can discuss an issue without attacking the person.

## **Prayer**

Thank the Lord for giving us grace and mercy in our relationships and with Him. Thank Him for our spiritual family that helps us stay unified on this journey. Pray for specific needs of the group.