

WEEK 3 - GREATER UNITY

BIG IDEA

When God's people unite around His purposes, nothing is impossible.

KEY PASSAGES

Nehemiah 3:1-32

RELATED PASSAGES

John 17; Ephesians 1:21; Revelation 5:9; Matthew 28:19; Colossians 2:6-7

Jerusalem's walls had been torn down, leaving the city open and vulnerable. Nehemiah knew that without walls, the people were unsafe—not just physically, but emotionally and spiritually, too. So he rallied the people, and together they began rebuilding, one brick at a time. Everyday people worked with passion, determination, and trust in God to provide safety and peace for the city.

GREATER vision requires **GREATER** unity. Just like in Nehemiah's Jerusalem, it takes a village of builders to bring about the vision God has given us at First Christian. God's mission moves forward when His people move together.

ICE BREAKERS

1. What is a team, group, or community you enjoyed being a part of growing up? Why did it leave such a meaningful impression on your life?
2. What is something you have in common with someone in this room that you did not expect?
3. When you hear the word "unity," what comes to mind?

CONSIDER & DISCUSS

Read Nehemiah 3:1-32, 4:1-23 aloud as a group. Spend time in discussion around the questions below.

1. How do you think the building of the wall in Jerusalem brought about unity among God's diverse people?
2. What about conflict is hard for you? What can we learn from Nehemiah about how to handle conflict?
3. How do you typically respond when someone in your life thinks or acts differently than you?
4. Read John 17:20-23. Why is Jesus so concerned about the disciples being unified? Why might this be His prayer for us as well?

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5. **What are the greatest gifts, skills, and talents you personally can utilize for the ways God is at work at First Christian? In what ways have you attempted to serve through your gifts?**
6. **What does it look like to live out Christian community in the way Jesus describes it in John 17? What might change in your life if you were to live in light of Jesus' words?**
7. **What behaviors or attitudes most strengthen unity in the Church? What behaviors or attitudes most threaten unity?**
8. **What impact does unity have in our ability to share the Gospel with those who don't know Jesus?**
9. **What role does prayer play in fostering unity?**

RESPOND

What is God prompting you to do next so that he can do a GREATER work in you? How might God be calling you to GREATER unity so that more people find hope in Jesus? Share this step of faith with your group and write it in your GREATER Guidebook.

PRAY

As we enter this exciting new season of ministry at First Christian, spend some time praying together as a group. Thank God for the ways He's provided for your needs. Ask God to use you as a catalyst for unity in the Church, and help you to see how He's calling you to work alongside others for GREATER Kingdom impact. You can pray in pairs, small groups, or have multiple people pray aloud