

Small Group Leaders' Guide | Sermon Questions, June 7, 2015

How Do I Follow for the Long Haul? | Psalm 133 – Unity in Community

1. Trav talked about how conflict is part of community where people “speak the truth we need to hear;” do you tend to embrace conflict or shy from it? Why?
2. Trav explained that community **flows from God's character** by the name Elohim¹, at times used for God in the OT. How does the fact that God exists in community challenge your understanding of how you live your life?

Please read Psalm 133

3. The Psalm says God is greatly pleased when we live together in unity. Trav said community **frames our calling** to holiness by giving our lives boundaries and focus². What do you think about the community in your life? Are you confronted with care? Refocused towards Christ?

Please read John 17:20-22

4. In light of God's purpose for unity, can you think of any relationships (or lack thereof) you might need to re-evaluate?
5. How are you going to be a part of a family of faith? How can you invite others in to that same family to experience unity? Who do you need to invite into community with you so that God's love may be clearly shown to the world?

¹ When referring to the God of Israel, the OT always uses the *plural* noun “Elohim” followed by a *singular* verb or adjective, which scholars have viewed as additional revelation for God's triune nature: 3 in 1 and 1 in 3.

² Like the frame of a painting