

THE BLESSINGS OF UNITY IN GROUPS: LEADERSHIP TEAMS COURSE WORKBOOK

Psalm 133: 1:

*"Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity . . .
for, there the Lord commands the blessing:"*



*Also used for
Retreat/Small Group Leader Guide*

THE BLESSINGS OF UNITY IN GROUPS:

Leadership Teams

Retreat Leader Guide

WORKBOOK

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THE BLESSINGS OF UNITY IN GROUPS

Write out your current big decisions you are facing, current issues and any ongoing areas of conflict/disagreement in C12 – both local and national. What questions do you have regarding God’s will for any of these?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. A faint vertical line runs down the left side, creating a margin. The paper appears to be part of a notebook or binder, as suggested by the dark binding visible at the top edge. There are no markings, text, or drawings on the page.

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CURRENT EVALUATION OF YOUR GROUP:

Rate the characteristics of Unity in your leadership team; on a scale of 1 – 5, 5 being best and couldn't be better, 1 being awful and could not be worse.

1. Level of Unity as a Leadership team

1 2 3 4 5

2. Leadership's Ability to Process:

- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| • Ability to listen | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Ability to share emotions/feelings/
information | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Encouraging you to share emotions/
feelings/info | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Not getting defensive during discussion | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Willingness to change position
(not be stubborn) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Ability to discuss calmly vs. argue/debate | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Ability to discuss creative solutions | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Ability to still enjoy your day in middle
of disagreement/difference of opinion | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

3. Leadership's desire to seek the will of God w/you

1 2 3 4 5

- | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| • Desire/frequency to pray together & seek God's will | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| • Desire/frequency to be in the Word together as you seek God's will | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

Tear out this page and hand to retreat leader—he/she will tabulate and then bring back to the group as we process the elements of unity together.

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DIVISION/DISCORD:

1. What is division/discord (opposite of unity) and what are its consequences?

- **Prov. 6: 16 - 19:**

- **Rom. 8: 5 - 8:**

- **James 4:11:**

- **James 5: 9:**

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- Gal. 5: 1 – 4:

- Gen. 13: 6 - 7:

- Acts 15: 36 – 40:

On a separate page of paper from your journal, write out which of any of these are contributing to conflict/division amongst the leadership team—tear out and hand in to the retreat leader who will tabulate these and bring back to the discussion on processing elements of unity together.

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2. What are the Primary Causes of Division/Discord?

- **Romans 8: 5 - 8:**

- **James 4: 1 – 4:**

All really caused by:

- **Gal. 5: 17; Gal. 5: 19 – 21; 26:**

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UNITY:

3. What is Unity and what are its blessings?

- **Ecc. 4: 9 – 12:**

- **2 Chr. 5: 11 – 14:**

- **1 John 1: 7; 4: 7; 4: 12 – 19:**

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- **Acts 2: 40 – 47:**

- **Col. 2: 2 – 3:**

- **Psalms 133:**

4. What are the Keys to Unity?

- **Forgiveness: Rom 8: 1 – 2:**

From each of the following verses, let's answer these questions:

- What did we deserve as sinners, having failed, disappointed God?
- What did God do despite our failure?
- On what basis did he release our failure, mistakes?
- What did he do with our failure and mistakes?
- Thus, what are we to do with our failure and mistakes?
- On what basis?
- And what are we to do with other's failures and mistakes?
- on what basis?

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- **Psalm 130:**

- **Psalm 103: 1 – 15:**

- **Heb. 10: 10- 18:**

Therefore, how are we to proceed in our heart now toward resolving things and going to reconciliation (agreement, which still needs to be fulfilled together—with integrity):

- **Phil 3: 10 – 15:**

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Going to Unity:

- Eph. 4: 1 – 6:

- Phil 2: 1 – 6:

- 2 Cor. 13: 11 – 14:

How:

- Rom. 8: 5; 12 – 17:

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- **John 16: 13 – 15:**

- **Col. 3: 12 – 17:**

5. How do we process our decisions/issues well - including disagreements/ differences of opinions?

- **Acts 15: 1 – 6:**

- **Eph. 4: 15 – 16; 25 – 32:**

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- **1 Kings 3: 5 – 9:**

- **Pr. 8: 32 – 35:**

- **Pr. 11: 14; 15:22:**

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PRAYING TOGETHER THROUGH THE PROCESS:

- **James 1: 5 – 8:**

- **1 Kings 10: 1 – 3:**

- **Heb. 10: 19 – 25; 35 – 11:2:**

- **Luke 11: 2; 5 – 8; 9 – 13:**

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- **1 John 5: 14 – 15:**

- **John 15: 7 – 8:**

- **John 14: 12 – 14:**

- **Matt. 18: 18 – 20:**

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- **Examples:**

- **Acts 12: 5 – 19:**

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- **1 Sam. 23: 1 – 13:**

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- **2 Chr. 20: 1 – 23:**

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PRACTICE:

1. We will take a decision or issue identified and begin processing.
 - a. A facilitator should on a white board or flip chart, be writing down what is presented, and reviewed by the group at each step.
 - b. Take one issue at a time
 - c. We will each share as the other's listen:
 - i. What information do you have about this – what do you believe is true?
 - ii. What do you think, feel, and believe about this?
 - iii. When done sharing, the rest of the group will confirm what they heard – repeating back what he/she heard.
 1. Did we get it right? Did we get it all?
 2. If not, go back and repeat process until the one speaking can say: yes, you got it right and you got it all.
 - iv. Repeat process for everyone in the group.
2. Based upon what you have understood together as the issue, the key question, the key decision to be pursued, go again around the group, and offer a solution to the decision or issue. Explain why. As each contributes to the discussion, it is not necessary to respond to what others have presented (we are not evaluating yet)—just what do they suggest (and can add to or reinforce what other's have already presented)

Then, the group discusses what they believe is God's will for the solution/resolution and why. Does the group come to agreement in the Spirit (a yes confirmed by the unity of the group) or is there still not confirmation – which we all willingly receive. At that point, we then might discuss what would be a next best step to receive more data/input/thoughts from God to bring about His answer.

SUMMARY: Psalm 133...There the Lord commands Blessings!!



