

**Sermon: A Celebration of Unity.**

**Series:** *Psalms of Ascent.*

**Scripture:** Psalm 133-134.

**Date:** August 17, 2025

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**OBSERVATION** -- As a group, talk through and summarize the passage. Think through *Who, What, Where, When, How, Why* questions together.

**INTERPRETATION** -- Answer these questions together:

**1. What does this passage teach us about us?**

- a) Psalm 133:1. Unity is good and pleasant. Where are you experiencing “good” unity in your life these days? Where are you experiencing disunity? Home? Work? School? Neighbors? Church?
- b) Self-promotion and self-protection get in the way of unity. Can you identify these in any area of your life where you are experiencing disunity?

**2. What does this passage teach us about God?**

- a) We said that the God of the gospel must be at the center of our unity. Read Ephesians 4:4-6. What truth stands out to you from this creed? Why is it so important that we all trust and be united around these foundational truths?

**3. What does this passage teach us about grace/salvation? How does it point to Christ?**

- a) For the Israelites, their unity was centered around the Temple in Jerusalem. For us it is centered around Christ. Read Ephesians 2:11-22. In what specific ways did Christ accomplish our unity with both God and one another?
- b) Compare Ps. 133:3b to Ephesians 1:3. What is God’s blessing for us, his people, and how do we receive it? Keep going...Why is the blessing of God only found in our union with Christ (note the uses of “in him,” or “in Christ” in Ephesians 1)?

**APPLICATION**

- a) Ephesians 4:3 tells us that the church must “maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” What role do we as individuals play in “maintaining” the unity in our church?

- b) Read Psalm 134. We are God’s priests today in his kingdom (1 Pt. 2:9). Priests mediated the blessing and served the Temple.

Mediating the blessing: How can you lead others around you in blessing (praising) God while also declaring his blessings in Christ? How might you apply this two-way blessing to your specific ministry? Your household?

Serve the Temple: Practice asking, “How can I help?” Has the Lord been nudging you toward serving the church in any way? Has he been asking you to “stand in the night” with anyone?

**PRAYER**

- Praise God for the unity of the God-head (Father, Son, Spirit).
- Confess ways that you have self-promoted and self-protected thus causing division.
- Thank Jesus for tearing down all walls of division and unifying us with his indwelling life.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to give you opportunities to mediate the blessing of God while serving the body of Christ.