

The Life Challenge

"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." John 10:10

Series: Shift
Title: Competition to Collaboration
Speaker: Cam Stuart
Date: October 17, 2021



WARM-UP

"Faced by the disunity of Christians, the world cannot see the supreme value of the Christian faith." - William Barclay

- What reflections do you have as you read the statement above?

DISCUSSION

Read John 17:20-26

- What jumps out at you from this passage as you read it?
- When Jesus prays for his followers to be united in the same way that Jesus and God the Father exist in unity, what is he asking for? Practically speaking, what do you think it would look like for Christians to experience that kind of oneness?
- What are the things that keep Christians from experiencing the kind of unity Jesus is praying for here?
 - What things keep us from collaborating together for the sake of the gospel?
 - What things actually divide us as Christians?
- What could be done to overcome the divisions we experience?
- As you reflect on this part of Jesus prayer, what is the value of the church pursuing oneness? What does Jesus seem to indicate would be the outcome if we could achieve the kind of unity he prays for?

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DISCUSSION

Reflect on the church community of Abbotsford.

- How do you think the unbelieving population of our city view the church in Abbotsford? What "story" do you think the church in Abbotsford communicates about what God is like to those who just see us from the outside? Explain your response.

PRAYER

Pray that the churches of Abbotsford would experience a oneness that gives witness to the good news of Jesus and the difference he makes in our lives.

Pray specifically for the other churches who are actively joining us in looking at collaboration for the sake of the gospel in our city.

- Arnold Community Church and Pastor Cam Stuart
- Mountain Park Church and Pastor Norm Poehlke
- The Life Centre Church and Pastor Brian Stewart

Take some time to engage in the "3 for 3" prayer challenge.

Bring before God the three people who don't yet know Jesus that you identified as we've moved through this series, and pray these things for them:

- Pray that _____ would have repeated opportunities to see, hear and respond to the good news of Jesus.
- Pray that God would let you be one of those opportunities.
- Pray that _____ would respond to the good news of Jesus by following him as Lord.