



## **BELIEVE**

Josh Hawley, Pastor of Community Life  
September 27, 2015

*John 17:20-23 & Ephesians 2:17-22*

**Are We the Answer to Jesus' Prayer?**

**Becoming the Answer to Jesus' Prayer...**

Starts by believing in Jesus. (John 17: 20)

- Am I 100% certain that I'm at peace with God through Jesus Christ?
- In what ways is Jesus asking me to trust Him today?

Calls us to unselfishly & proactively work towards unity with our brothers & sisters in Christ. (John 17:21-23 & Ephesians 2:17-22)

- The Positional Reality: we already are one in Christ.
- The Practical Challenge: living out our unity in actual community while appreciating all of our diversity.

### **Next Steps**

- I am committing to follow Jesus for the first time today.
- I am re-committing to follow Jesus today.
- I affirm my God-given privileges & responsibilities as a member of Christ's body, the Church.
- This year I will commit to Christ's Church by connecting relationally and/or serving in ministry.



**Lesson Aim:** being one starts by belonging to Jesus Christ

**Ice Breaker:** When did you truly believe in Jesus? When did you fully trust him?

1. Referring back to Pastor Josh's message on Sunday, what does it mean to "**be one**" according to Jesus?
2. **READ John 17:20-23.** How can we be an answer to Jesus' prayer as expressed here?
3. How are your prayers for others like or unlike Jesus' prayer here? What can you apply to your prayers as you consider these verses?
4. **READ Romans 10:8-13.** This scripture gives us two requirements for salvation. What are they? Has anybody ever tried to tell you that there is more? How can we be prepared to help people understand who insist more is required for salvation (that we are saved by performance rather than faith)?

5. **READ Ephesians 2:17-22.** The Apostle Paul writes of the believers' unity through Christ. What are some of the challenges to being united with other Christians? In what practical ways can we be more united?
6. If Paul wrote a letter to your church today, what stand would he take on issues that threaten to tear the church apart?
7. Once we are saved through faith in Jesus, we become a member of Christ's Church (universal). How do you define Church, and what does it look like to be an active member? (cf. 1 Corinthians 12)
8. How might the Lord be calling you into becoming a more active member in His Church through your participation in a local church?

Each week we will offer a Scripture memory verse section related to the sermon. Memorizing Scripture is a key tool to resist temptation, make wise decisions, strengthen us under stress, comfort us when we're sad and to witness to those who don't know Christ.

**Memory Verse(s) of the Week: Ephesians 2:19-20**