Course Schedule

Class 1: Diversity? Unity? For God's Sake!

Class 2: How God Builds Unity and Diversity

Class 3: The Image of God in Our Unity and Diversity

Class 4: God's Purposes for Similarity in the Church

Class 5: Counsel for Christians in the Minority

Class 6: Counsel for Christians in the Majority

Class 7: Working Through Disunity



Unity and Diversity in the Local Church Class 6: Counsel for Christians in the Majority

Introduction: How can we love others coming from the backgrounds of the majority or the minority?

⁹Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. ¹⁰Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality." –Romans 12:9-13

Five things should characterize our love for each other in the church:

1. Genuine in Affection

"Let love be genuine."

2. Self-Forgetting

"Outdo one another in showing honor."

How can those in the majority avoid assuming that everyone else sees things like they do?

- 1. Remember the "invisibility factor" of the majority culture.
- 2. Build real friendships with those who are different.
- 3. Listen to sermon application that *doesn't* apply to you.
- 4. Think about different experiences as you pray through the directory.
- 5. Put yourself in their shoes
- 6. Humbly ask questions

3. Zealous

"Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord."

4. Constant

"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."

5. Sacrificial

"Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality."

• Zealous and proactive sacrifice