

## Thy Kingdom Come: A Divided Kingdom

### Reflect

1. Have you ever been a part of team before? What kind of team was it?
2. Where have you seen the most division in your life and what was the affect?
3. Where have you seen the most unity in your life and what was the affect?

### Read Your Bible

- 1 Corinthians 12:12-14
- Matthew 12:22-37

### Apply God's Word to Your Life

1. There is so much division within our world today. Where are the arenas that you find unity?
2. The good news is that we are part of the Body of Christ! Amen and Hallelujah! The more challenging news is it is not about us as individuals. It is about us being a part of something bigger, which means that at times we must sacrifice for the good of the whole. What would be hard for you to give up for the sake of others?
3. "Teamwork makes the dream work." What is God's dream? What work has God called us to? What work has God called you to?
4. More than anything else that Jesus prayed for when He prayed for humanity was unity. How are we doing?
5. How is the Church doing regarding unity? In what ways do you think we can do better?
6. Verse 33 from our Gospel text says, "...for a tree is recognized by its fruit." What fruit does your life produce?

### Conclusion

May I say that the Gospel text for this study is deep and there is a great deal of "stuff" that we could talk about. I do want to address the speaking against the Holy Spirit also known as the unforgivable sin. There are many thoughts regarding this and should be addressed in another conversation. Please reach out to one of our pastors for further discussion. Quite simply stated, "united we stand and divided we fall." But it is hard work to be united; relationships take time and effort. We have to put away our selfishness and selfish ambitions and do the hard, unifying work that God has called us to. And that starts with each of us and acknowledging our own brokenness and need for God and one another.

### Pray

Gracious God we need Your grace. Give us Your grace so that we can see You in the eyes of others. Give us Your grace so that we can hear You in the voice of others. Give us Your strength so that we can work for the sake of others. Give us Your grace so that we may become one just as You are One. May there be unity in the body of Christ. Amen!