

LOST IN TRANSLATION

Part 6: The Enemy Within

Big Idea: The greatest threat to the church isn't outside forces—it's division within.

Opening Question:

- Think of a time you experienced deep unity with a group of people. What made it so powerful?
- Why do you think people today are often more loyal to **political, social, or national identities** than to their faith?
- Have you ever seen division weaken a church or Christian community? What happened?

Scripture Exploration:

- **Read John 17**
 - Jesus prays for His followers to be one, just as He and the Father are one.
 - Why do you think unity was Jesus' greatest concern for His followers?
 - What does this passage reveal about how division impacts the credibility of the church?
- **Read John 13:34**
 - Why does Jesus make love for each other the defining mark of His followers?
 - What makes this command difficult when we disagree with other Christians?
 - What does it look like to love people we strongly disagree with?
- **Read Luke 2:11**
 - If Jesus is King, what does that mean for our political, cultural, and personal loyalties?
 - In what ways do we sometimes let secondary issues (politics, culture, social movements) take priority over Jesus?
 - How can we keep Jesus as King in the way we engage with the world?

Going Deeper:

- Jesus prayed for unity—why is it so hard for the church to live it out?
- What are some warning signs that we're allowing division to distract us from Jesus?
- If non-believers looked at the way Christians interact online and in culture today, what do you think they would assume about Jesus?
- How can we demonstrate unity without ignoring important issues?

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Personal Application:

- What's one step you can take this week to pursue unity in your own faith community?
 - Example: Have a conversation with someone you disagree with, choose grace over argument, or pray for someone you struggle to love.
- Is there a person or group you've struggled to love because of their beliefs or actions?
 - How can you respond differently in a way that reflects Jesus?
- What would change in your life if you truly pledged loyalty to Jesus above everything else?

Final Thoughts & Prayer:

🙌 Imagine if the church was known not for its divisions, but for its love and unity. How would that change how the world sees Jesus?

🙏 Let's pray for God to give us the courage to love, the humility to listen, and the wisdom to pursue unity without compromising truth.