

# polarizing

/poh-luh-rye-zing/

## SERMON DISCUSSION

### Choosing Sides

#### Quotable Moments:

- Difference is inevitable. Division is a choice.
- Jesus was the King who came to reverse the order of things.

**Scripture:** John 13:34-35 / John 17:11, 20-21

#### Key Things You Heard:

- Jesus teaches very clearly that our influence on the world is directly tied to the unity we display.
- As a follower of Jesus, we can disagree politically and love unconditionally.
- When we try to edit Jesus to fit a political platform, we rob the world of the only message that can change the world.
- The greatest enemy of the church is disunity.
- Two things hang in the balance of our choice to embrace unity - or division: 1) the faith of the next generation and 2) the souls of a lost generation.

**Pray:** Jesus, thank you for your love for me. I pray that my heart would become your heart - that I would love others like you loved me. I also pray for the same level of passion for unity with other believers that Jesus had. In Jesus' name, Amen.

#### Moving Forward:

- Repent of any sin of disunity in your life.
- Pray that you would love others like Jesus loved you.
- Pray for the same level of passion for Unity that Jesus had.
- Re-watch and/or share the sermon with a friend. Go to [rivertown.cc](http://rivertown.cc) or the RCC App.

#### Questions for Group Discussion:

**First Minutes:** When you think of Christians, do most people think of Unity or Division? Why do you think that is?

- Prior to this talk, what would you have said the greatest enemy of the church is?
- Paul said, "Jesus teaches that our influence on the world is directly tied to the unity we display." Do you agree? Based on the last 2 years, should the influence of Christians be growing or declining in America?
- Read John 13:34-35. What is the identifier of being a disciple? When thinking of the relationships in our group or in our church, how well are we living that out? What could we change to live this out better?
- Read John 17:11. Describe the oneness of the trinity (God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit). How is that a picture of the oneness followers of Jesus should live out?
- Read Jesus' prayer in John 17:20-21. Paul said, "The greatest enemy of the church is disunity."
- What are some ways that we as a group can love one another as Jesus loved us? How can we grow in unity?