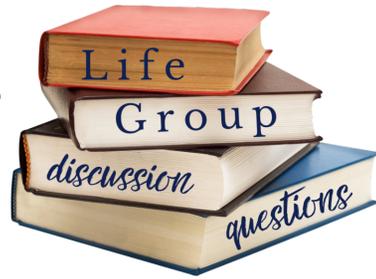


OPENING DISCUSSION

Throughout history, unity has been hard to attain and even harder to maintain. Why do you think this is? What makes unity so difficult?



SERMON

Why does James speak last? What was he doing before this?

Why might James have spoken after an apostle like Peter?

How does James confirm the words of Peter? Why is this important?

Why must God's Word govern our unity?

Based on the testimony of Peter, an apostle, and the confirmation of Scripture, what conclusion does James come to?

What does it look like to "trouble those who turn to God?" (See Acts 15:1-2)

What compromise does James offer to both Jews and Gentiles?

Why does James specifically suggest that Gentiles, at a minimum, abstain from "things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood?"

APPLICATION

When it comes to unity, why is it so important to listen before we speak? Why is this so difficult for many people?

How do you evaluate the opinions of others? Are their certain opinions you weigh more than others?

When thinking about a spirit of unity, how often do you look to God's Word? How important is God's Word when it comes to unity?

Why is compromise essential to unity? On what was James not willing to compromise?

What can we learn from the Jerusalem council in terms of seeking unity in the church?

What are you doing to bring unity to God's church?

How can you cultivate a spirit of unity in your everyday life?

Not a part of a Life Group at North Hills?

Visit the church website and check out the different groups currently meeting.

When you see one that interests you, click on the link provided and know that the group will be glad you came!

<https://church.north-hills.org/connect/small-group-ministry>

NORTH HILLS CHURCH

- 5/22/22 -

Authentic

After they finished speaking, James replied, "Brothers, listen to me. Simeon has related how God first visited the Gentiles, to take from them a people for his name. And with this the words of the prophets agree, just as it is written, 'After this I will return, and I will rebuild the tent of David that has fallen; I will rebuild its ruins, and I will restore it, that the remnant of mankind may seek the Lord, and all the Gentiles who are called by my name, says the Lord, who makes these things known from of old.' Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God, but should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality, and from what has been strangled, and from blood. For from ancient generations Moses has had in every city those who proclaim him, for he is read every Sabbath in the synagogues." *Acts 15:13-21 (ESV)*

NORTH HILLS CHURCH

200 Admiral Callaghan Lane, Vallejo, CA 94591 • (707) 644-5286 • north-hills.org

2021-2022 Sermon Series: Authentic

Authentic Character: A Spirit of Unity - James

Acts 15:13-21

AUTHENTIC PRINCIPLE:

Use your _____ to bring _____.

1. Point people to God's _____. (Acts 15:13-18)

2. Don't make it _____ to belong to God's _____. (Acts 15:19)

3. Learn to _____ for the sake of _____.
(Acts 15:20-21)

RESPONSE:

What are you _____ to bring _____ in God's church?



Upward Volleyball

Youth sports should be fun and challenging! With Upward Volleyball, your child will develop athletic abilities and learn life principles that apply both on and off the court. Registration is open until May 23 (unless capacity is reached beforehand). To sign up, go to our [website](#). If you have questions or need additional information, contact Lu Parinas at (707) 644-5286 or upward@nhcsvallejo.org. Upward Volleyball will be from June 20 - July 30 and is for children who have completed 4th-8th grade.

- > Practice: One night a week for one hour and 15 minutes
- > Game: Saturday (3 sets game)
- > Registration Fee: \$125 (discount of \$15 off your second child and each subsequent child)
- > Player Evaluations: June 1 (6 - 8 PM) and June 4 (12 - 2 PM)

Outdoor Children's Ministry on Sunday mornings

Parents and guardians, we ask that you go to the **main entrance** of the Worship Center to check your child in. After service, please go to the Preschool Playground in a timely fashion to check your child out. While our Sunday morning Children's Worship is designed for children, it is not mandatory children attend. Parents and guardians are welcome to keep their children with them in the Worship Center if they prefer.

The FAMILY ROOM

Want a place to go during the worship service when your young one is crying?

Want a place to go when your newborn needs to be fed?

Want a place to go where the service can be watched?

The Family Room has been designed especially for you!

The Family Room (located on the first floor by the wooden double doors) is for parents who want to care for their children yet do not want to miss out on what is happening in the Worship Center. Parents, we invite you to come inside and make yourself at home.

We also have another room for parents. It is located on the second floor. It is a larger room where children can play and parents can watch the service as it is live streamed. The room next door has a restroom. Please feel free to use it and let us know if there is anything you need.

Parents, we are so glad you are here at North Hills. It is an honor and joy to serve you and your children. May God bless you today.

Communication Cards and Offering Envelopes

At the **main entrance** and **senior parking lot entrance** of the Worship Center, you will find special new boxes when you leave today. If you have filled out a Communication Card or Offering Envelope, please insert them into either of the boxes (please note the boxes will remain out for 15 minutes after the service). For those who prefer to contribute online, simply go to north-hills.org and click on Support NH or text GIVE to (707) 289-7600.

Read the entire Bible chronologically in a year

See the church newsletter for this week's Bible reading passages.

<https://church.north-hills.org/newsletters/weekly-newsletter>