

# Reading the Psalms & Proverbs

## *The Pilgrim Journey*

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Week 8

*Psalm 133*

Psalm 133 is one of the last Psalms of Ascents and consists of three short verses. Do not be fooled by the brevity of the Psalm however, it expresses something which is close to the heart of God. More than anything, God loves unity: unity with Himself, with us, and among us. It is one of the clearest outward signs of genuine love for one another.

An analysis of the Psalm:

- I. Jesus' Prayer for Unity (John 17:20-23)
- II. Unity means
  - A. The we genuinely love one another
  - B. That we share the same core values, placing priority on the same primary things of life
  - C. That we have a common mission and share the same major goals
- III. Unity does NOT mean that we agree on everything and every detail
  - A. Even in the upper room two men were proposed to take the place of Judas (Acts 1:23)
  - B. Our gifts and attributes differ
    - Leadership vs Administration
    - Exhortation vs Mercy
  - C. We have different backgrounds and local/global cultures
- IV. Unity must be proactively preserved
  - A. Ephesians 4:1-7—Be diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace
  - B. I Peter 4:8-9—Love covers over a multitude of sins (also Proverbs 10:12 & 17:9)
  - C. Matthew 18:14-17—If your brother sins against you go to him!
- V. Unity enhances answers to prayer
  - A. Matthew 18:19-20—Where to are gathered in agreement I am there and I will answer
  - B. Matthew 5:23-24—If you bring your gift to God and remember your bother has something against you, First go and be reconciled to your brother...then come and offer your gift
  - C. Acts 2:1—When the day of Pentecost came they were altogether in one accord in one place
  - D. Acts 15:25 & 28—It seemed good to us, having become of one mind, it seemed good to us and to the Holy Spirit

God values unity among His people above all else. Being a family that prays together and stays together is prized by the Lord and offer great reward. It is a great blessing to all who belong to such a church family.