



POWER OF ONE

When you think about it, we live in a world with a lot of division. We're divided by borders, denominations, politics, and sometimes gates divide us from the rest of our community. I could list more but when I started to think about these things it did not take me long to realize that our world is splintered.

I also began to realize that the extreme majority of these divisions do not come from God. They are manmade. We are creating new ways each and every day to show how we are different from each other, to voice what we are against, and to distance ourselves from people we may not like or understand.

Then I began to realize that this could not have been what God had in mind when He sent His Son to die for us. Let's look at one division to make my point. No matter where I looked, I did not see anything in scripture to justify us having the numerous denominations all over the world. Not only that, but in the state that I live in, our denomination is split in two. Because of all this division, everyone in the church is so busy arguing, there is no time left to get anything done. Because we are so splintered we get completely distracted from what we are supposed to be doing. We distance ourselves from the gifts and resources God has given us. We could be using these things to reach others for Him. As this continues, our world steadily will fall apart and the disdain for Christianity will continue to grow.

This study will not be a fix all. A couple of other things this study is not:

1. This is not a naïve let's hold hands and just get along study. There are times we will disagree, and at times that is a good thing.
2. This is not a study about us rolling over in our beliefs and getting run over by the world. There are times we will have to take a stand. There just may be some better ways we can go about that.

This study is about us remembering who God called us to be. It is about us remembering our identity in Christ when we move as one incredible things can happen. Here is how it will break down.

Lesson 1: One Heart (The Great Commandment)

Lesson 2: One Passion (The Least of These)

Lesson 3: One Focus (The Great Commission)

Lesson 4: One Church (The Big Picture)

I am so excited about this study. I hope you will work through this with both an open mind and discerning heart. While the principles in this study are not new, I believe if we start to move towards being one, we will see incredible things happen in our churches, communities, and then our world.

Buck Baskin