

Short Talk

(SHT010)

Unity

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ALL AGE WORSHIP
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SHORT TALK: “UNITY” (SHT010)

Aim of Short talk:	To encourage people to do all they can to pursue unity in the church.
Main themes:	Unity, Church
Biblical references:	Psalms 133, John 17:20-23, Ephesians 4:3
Props:	A variety of musical instruments eg. drum, recorder, guitar, keyboard, and music for “Happy Birthday to you”

I need four helpers this morning to come and make some music..... *(Select your helpers from the worship band or from people that you know can play the recorder, guitar, keyboard etc. Spread your helpers out across the front of the church and give them a musical instrument each)*

OK – I want each one of you to think of a tune in your head.....

- maybe a nursery rhyme
- or a worship song,
- or some other song you know.

After I count to three – I want you to play your tune.

- Don't take any notice of what anyone near you is doing,
- Simply play your tune as loud as you can.....OK?
- 1,2 3.....play *(Helpers play their tune.....after a while shout, “Stop”)*

Wow.....what a din!

- Everyone playing their own tune.
- How do you think we could improve the sound that our band is making up here?
(receive answers)

Let's see if playing the same tune improves the sound.

- I want you all to have a go at playing, “Happy birthday to you”
- I have some music for you if you would like it.

You will need to listen to each other so that you play it at the same time.....

- Are you ready?
- After three: 1,2,3.....play *(Helpers play “Happy birthday to you”)*

Thank you very much.....that sounded so much better when you all played the same tune.

- Would you like to sit down?

When each person played their own tune,

- it didn't sound good did it?
- But when everyone played the same tune, it did sound good didn't it?

As followers of Jesus we are called to be united with one another.

- That means that we are all to play the same tune.....
- not our own tunes, but the “Jesus tune;”
- the tune that says that Jesus is the Lord.

I wonder what playing the “Jesus tune” in this church looks like.

- It doesn't mean we all do the same thing,
- we all have different ministries.

But playing the “Jesus tune” will mean that we choose to love one another,

- rather than criticise one another.

Playing the “Jesus tune” will mean that we are careful how we talk about one another.....

- we won't say unkind words,
- but kind and encouraging words.

Playing the “Jesus tune” will mean that every person in the church is valued and listened to,

- whatever their age,

Playing the “Jesus tune” will mean that each person is willing to use the gifts,

- that God has given them in His service.

Playing the “Jesus tune” will mean that we are a humble, patient, kind, gentle and forgiving people,

- who are willing to obey Jesus, whatever the cost.

Psalm 133 verse 1 says: *“How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!”* and verse 3 says: *“For there the Lord bestows his blessing, even life forevermore.”*

If we are united around Jesus like this,

- then God will bless us as the Psalmist says,
- our church will grow,
- and it will be a place full of life and joy....
- so let's all make the effort to play the “Jesus tune” rather than our own tune.