Psalm 133
Life Group Growth Sheet

"Christian community is not an ideal we have to realize, but rather a reality created by God in Christ in which we may participate."
- Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Read Colossians 2:9-14
What things do you see in this passage that only God, through Christ, could do in order to bring us to union with Him and other believers?

Read Ephesians 2:1-10
What things do you see in this passage that only God, through Christ, could do in order to bring us to union with Him and other believers?

In these two passages, Paul repeatedly describes our salvation through the term "in Christ." Why is it so important for him to stress this reality about our salvation, especially as it relates to living in unity together?

"When Christians unite around something other than the gospel, they create community that would likely exist even if God didn't. As a modern-day tower of Babel, that community glorifies their strength instead of God's."
*- **Mark Dever***

Read Colossians 2:3-17
What are the commands we are given that protect the unity we share in the gospel and that showcase God's love to us to the world around us?

Read Ephesians 4:1-3; 17-5:2
What are the commands we are given that protect the unity we share in the gospel and that showcase God's love to us to the world around us?

In what ways can we live that denies the truth of our unity?

In what ways *must* we live as a body of Christ that exudes the beautiful fragrance of our unity (like anointing oil) and dispenses grace to those around us (like streams flowing from the dew and melting snow from Mt. Hermon)?

As a closing word of encouragement, read two portions of Jesus' high priestly prayer in John 17:11, 20-23. Pray together, echoing Christ's prayer for us that we would be one even as He and the Father are one. Ask God for grace to live out the reality of our unity, so that the world around us will know that God has loved us and will desire to know that love for themselves.