

## Brainstorm Guide

**Topic:** Unity

### Understand the definition(s):

[dictionary.com](http://dictionary.com) defines unity as: *The state of being one; oneness. A whole or totality as combining all its parts into one. The state or fact of being united or combined into one, as of the parts of a whole; unification. Absence of diversity; unvaried or uniform character. Oneness of mind, feeling, etc., as among a number or persons; concord, harmony, or agreement.*

#### unity

The bringing together of separate or fragmented parts into a unified whole. It is God's ultimate goal to unite the whole of creation; his desire for unity is evident, too, in the life of his people. God himself acts as a unity in all his works.

Manser, M. H. (2009). *Dictionary of Bible Themes: The Accessible and Comprehensive Tool for Topical Studies*. London: Martin Manser.

#### unity, God's goal of

God's purpose is to bring together and reconcile to himself the whole of creation. This desire for unity is a reflection of the unity within the Godhead; it is expressed in marriage, and demonstrated in the fellowship of the church.

#### Unity is a reflection of God's person

**Dt 6:4; Jn 17:22** See also **Mk 12:29,32; Jn 1:1; 17:11; Gal 3:20; 1Jn 5:7**

Manser, M. H. (2009). *Dictionary of Bible Themes: The Accessible and Comprehensive Tool for Topical Studies*. London: Martin Manser.

#### unity, of God's people

A distinguishing characteristic of God's people, which derives from their common relationship with God, and is expressed in commitment to one another, mutual concern, concerted action and harmony within the believing community.

Manser, M. H. (2009). *Dictionary of Bible Themes: The Accessible and Comprehensive Tool for Topical Studies*. London: Martin Manser.

Key Words: Community; together; altogether. Unitedness. Hebrew Lemma: together, each other, both, at the same time, unified, completely.

**3479** יחד (yā·hăḏ): v.; ≡ Str 3161; TWOT 858—**1.** LN 34.22–34.30 (qal) **join**, be united, i.e., enter into an association with a person or group (Ge 49:6; Isa 14:20+); **2.** LN 31.82–31.101 unit: (piel) לֵב יחד (yā·hăḏ lē·bāb) undivided heart, i.e., pertaining to being faithful and trustworthy in belief and behavior, as an extension of being in close association to a person or group (Ps 86:11+), note: Job 3:6 MT text is qal impf. 3ms., see GK parsing as 2526 nif

**3480** יחד (yā·hăḏ): adv. [see also 3480.5]; ≡ Str 3162; TWOT 858b—**1.** LN 63.1–63.4 **together**, wholly, in unity, with each other, i.e., pertaining to being whole and in a state of oneness (Ps 133:1), note: often a strengthened position; **2.** LN 92.26 **each other**, i.e., a marker of reciprocation between two persons or groups (1Sa 17:10); **3.** LN 59.23–59.34 **both**, alike, i.e., a unity and totality of exactly two of class, kind, or entity (2Sa 14:16); **4.** LN 67.17–67.64 **at the same time**, now, all at once, i.e., a period of time exactly or virtually the same as another period of time (Isa 42:14); **5.** LN 34.1–34.21 **united**, i.e., pertaining to joining in an association (1Ch 12:18[EB 17]); **6.** LN 78.44–78.50 **completely**, i.e., pertaining to a degree of

completeness and fullness (Ps 74:8); 7. LN 69.2–69.6 unit: לֹא־בְיָמֵינוּ (lō(ʾ) yǎ·hǎḏ) by no means, surely not, certainly not, i.e., a marker of emphatic negation (Hos 11:7)

יָבֵד (yǎ·hǎḏ): n.[masc.] [served by 3480]; ≡ Str 3162; TWOT 858b—LN 11.1–11.11 a **gathering**, i.e., a united group (Dt 33:5; 1Ch 12:18[EB 17]+)

Swanson, J. (1997). [\*Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew \(Old Testament\)\*](#) (electronic ed.). Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc.

### **Brainstorm Exploration Questions:**

Meditate on scriptures that focus on this topic

What mental pictures come to your mind?

What emotions or feelings come to mind?

What other words come to your mind?

What are the problems you feel/questions you have about this? (felt need)

### **The Very Best Brainstorm Ever: From Lysa TerKeurst's Compel Training**

*The 12 I's*

1. **Identify Issues:** Find a commonality between you and your reader. Identify the pain point.
2. **Investigate true needs and motives:** Identify all the steps to move people forward. Cast the vision for a hope filled future.
3. **Initiate a conversation:** How will you enter into ONE person's world? Write to ONE reader.
4. **Interpret your reader's discouragement:** give voice to the pain, problems and desires she has, but doesn't know the words to use. Invite someone into the thought process and describe the thoughts going on in your head.
5. **Interject your distinctive:** what makes your writing different than anyone else? Identify what makes you distinct.
6. **Introduce your writing as their solution:** Once you've made your connection with your reader and built trust, you can introduce your solutions. One way to increase trust is to identify the skepticism people have about the information you are sharing. Address it in your writing.
7. **Illuminate testimonial evidence:** gather testimonies that confirm the advice you are giving will work with your reader.
8. **Invigorate them with the value of your solutions:** Show the value you bring that will help address a problem or question. Evidence of the pain and the solution. (start with an action word, build tension with the felt need, and resolve the tension with your solution).
9. **Illustrate how their life will be better:** Cast a vision! Not just for one day in the future, but today. (Might not be able to include all the steps from pain to future success in a blog or just one article).
10. **TRULY's Job: Invite them into your community of participants** (Our Truly Facebook Community Group!)
11. **Include logical details:** Think through the logical details of each step in the process from pain to purpose. Don't make assumptions your reader knows everything you do.
12. **TRULY's Job:** Incentivize their commitment: We're going to be having meet-ups and opportunities for involvement.