





goodness to us, And reading on, if we happen to do anything good, we're actually simply doing what God's created us to do. We're just living the way we're supposed to. But we're living in response to God's love.

[ 15 : 19 ] Not because we're trying to make God love us more. Now I think so far that's pretty basic stuff.

It's something that I hope most of you understand now, that God is gracious to us. And that we're dead to sins, and alive to Christ.

And that we know that if we have faith in him, we have a place in heaven. Now if you read the rest of the book, But Paul starts his letter about unity with a message of grace.

Now this is for a very good reason. I would say that if there were any threats to church unity, You can be almost certain.

That's right. You can be almost certain that love, the love and grace that God has shown us, has been forgotten. And not necessarily because we're not loving each other, But because we've forgotten how God has loved us first.

[ 17 : 06 ] Now I know this year is a big change for all of you. With Ivy going to minister to the congregation in Burwood, Ivy Burwood, I can see God using this church in great ways.

Now I know that not because I know all of you all that well, But I know that because I know God.

Now there are also many opportunities that things could go wrong as well though. There are times where your unity or where your fellowship or your friendships might be challenged.

I visited a lot of Chinese churches. And I've talked to a lot of their leaders.

Now I'm not talking about this church, But other churches, I've seen some very scary things.

[ 18 : 28 ] Now it's scary to me because the same problems keep coming up over and over and over again. And I see the biggest threat, Now Caucasians or Aussies, they sometimes ask me this question.

Sorry, Big word. Why are Asians so smart?

? They're all doctors or lawyers or accountants. Now I usually laugh, not because I don't agree with them, but because I don't quite know how to explain the expectations that are placed on us.

But we know that one way or another, they'll talk about what school they're sending their children to, Sunday School,

