

1 ☐ Unity-Mark of a Maturing Church

Part Four - Ephesians 4:1-6

2 ☐ Matthew 16:17 -18 (NASB)

And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. "I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.

3 ☐

➤ **"The devils are united as one man in their infamous rebellion, while we believers in Jesus are divided in our service of God, and scarcely ever work with unanimity."**-- Spurgeon

4 ☐ Preserve the Unity of the Spirit (vs 1-3)

1

➤ *I implore you... the prisoner of the Lord...*

...to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called

5 ☐ How Do We Maintain Unity?

1

➤ Understanding our calling

2

➤ God the Father effectively calls those to be saved. (Jn. 6:37, 44)

➤ The Holy Spirit causes us to be born again or regenerated. (Jn. 3:3-5)

➤ Jesus saves us to the uttermost. (Jn. 5:24)

➤ The person who believes and trusts in Christ shall never die. (Jn.11:25-26)

6 ☐

1

➤ **Living in humility**

2

➤ Humility is the most foundational virtue...Yet is terribly elusive, because if focused on too much it will turn into pride, its very opposite. Humility is a virtue to be highly sought but never claimed, because once claimed it is forfeited." --MacArthur, Ephesians

7 ☐ Showing gentleness

8 ☐ Being patient

2

Matthew 7:12 (NASB)

"In everything, therefore, treat people the same way you want them to treat you, for this is the Law and the Prophets."

9 ☐

"Humility gives birth to gentleness, gentleness gives birth to patience, patience gives birth to forbearing love, and all four of those characteristics preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace..."

10 ☐

➤ **"These virtues and the supernatural unity to which they testify are probably the most powerful testimony the church can have,**

because they are in such contrast to the attitudes and the disunity of the world...

11 ☐

- **“No program or method, no matter how perfectly planned and executed, can open the door to the gospel in the way individual believers can do when they are genuinely humble, meek, patient, forbearing in love, and demonstrate peaceful unity in the Holy Spirit.”**

–John MacArthur, Ephesians

12 ☐ What it Doesn't Mean to be “One.”

13 ☐

- No Problems
- No Disagreements
- No Challenges
- No Dangers
- No Reality

14 ☐

- Over looking serious sin is not oneness.

15 ☐

- Oneness cannot be built around false teaching or weak teaching.

16 ☐ **Oneness**

17 ☐

- Accordingly, what we have here is a sevenfold [use of the term one] description of a threefold unity, a statement of the character of Christian unity and of its trinitarian Source.

–Hendriksen-Kistemaker, Ephesians

18 ☐ **Our Unity in the Spirit**

- **John 3:8 (NASB)**

The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit.

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- **1 Corinthians 12:13 (NASB)**

For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

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- **Ephesians 1:14 (NASB)**

[The Holy Spirit of promise] is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God's own possession, to the praise of His glory.

19 ☐ **Our Unity in Christ**

- Jesus Christ is not valued at all until He is valued above all. - Augustine

20 **Truth Matters**

21 **Our Unity in the Father**

Ephesians 4:6 (NASB)

one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.