

OUTLINE:

TITLE: The Gospel Perspective on Unity
TEXT: Philippians 4:1-9
THEME: Unity in the Body
PROP.: We must understand the role of the Gospel in producing Unity
INTER.: What impact should the Gospel have on our Unity?

- I. The Nature of our unity (4:1)**
 - A. The relational dynamics**
 - 1. A familial bond
 - 2. A friendship
 - B. The reward dynamics**
 - 1. The present – Joy
 - 2. The prospect – Crown
 - C. The Reminder dynamics**
- II. The necessity of dealing with division (4:2-5)**
 - A. The identification of the problem**
 - 1. What we know
 - 2. What was said
 - B. The intervention into the problem**
 - 1. The identification of the moderator
 - 2. The intervention

QUESTIONS:

- 1. What did you hear?
- 2. What is the difference between unity and uniformity?
- 3. How should the difference between unity and uniformity impact my thinking when I realize that I disagree with someone.
- 4. How does choosing to be unified in light of disagreements glorify the Gospel?

5. How often are relationships destroyed over debates about things that really don't matter?
6. How would we handle differences differently if we stopped and considered the value of our relationship compared to the value of what we are fighting for?
7. How should thinking about the Gospel and the fact that we are both believers impact the way we treat each other when we disagree?
8. How should a passion for the Gospel impact my thinking and doing when I realize that there are "brothers" and "friends" who are engaging in division that is contrary to the scripture?
9. What should true biblical intervention look like?
10. What do you think are some wise and necessary cautions when it comes to biblical intervention?