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Ephesians for Beginners / A Call for Unity / Ephesians 4:1-16

This section of the epistle describes the proper response to God's offer of salvation and the blessings attached to it, the first of which is to maintain the unity of the Spirit.



UNITY OF THE CHURCH

Lesson #8

Ephesians for Beginners

ADAPTED FROM: BIBLETALK.TV

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Review

1. Paul Prays _____.
2. He describes the hopeless _____.
3. Explains God's secret plan.
4. He explains that the "plan" now revealed by the church to men and angels.
5. He prays _____.

Unity of the Church 4:1-16

1. The call to unity

Ephesians 4:1-3 ESV

¹ I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Paul explains what the church must do in order to maintain its unity _____

_____;

Attitudes that promote unity:

- H _____
- M _____
- P _____
- F _____

2. The basis for unity

Ephesians 4:4-6 ESV

⁴ There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

We are united because we share:

- One _____
- One _____
- One _____
- One _____
- One _____
- One _____
- One _____
- One _____
- So, maintaining the unity that exists in the church requires a right _____ towards one another and a sharing of the _____.

_____ + _____ = _____

3. God helps us keep unity

Ephesians 4:7-11 ESV

⁷ But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it says,

“When he ascended on high he led a host of captives,
and he gave gifts to men.”

⁹ (In saying, “He ascended,” what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth? ¹⁰ He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,

The Gifts Given are:

- A _____
- P _____
- E _____
- P _____/T _____

Ephesians 4:12-13 ESV

¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

4. Results of unity

Ephesians 4:14-16 ESV

¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

- Firmly _____
- Speak _____
- M _____
- Cooperation _____

Summary

John 13:35 ESV

³⁵ By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

The greatest task we have as Christians is
to _____
