

Relationships Matter

GOD'S DESIRE FOR A COMMUNITY OF BELIEVERS

Unity in The Body



Part of the 'Growing Together'
Discipleship Stream

Solihull
Christian
Fellowship



Questions To Ponder

Some of these questions should be consider privately as well as in a group. They are also best understood in light of the sermon

- *Do you want this type of Unity?*
- *Are you seeking to be tuned to Christ – be honest*
- *What secondary issue(s) are you willing to lay down*
- *Are you willing to stay at the table*
- *Are you willing to love you brother or sister no matter what*

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John 17:20-23 - *“I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.*

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- 1 billion Roman Catholics
- 400 million Protestants
- 220 million Orthodox Church
- 85 million Anglicans
- 275 million who would label themselves as independent

Yet there is one church and not five



R e l a t i o n s h i p s M a t t e r
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Ephesians 4:1-6 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

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Unity is Bigger than how churches relate

- How families work
- Friends talk to one another
- Friends talk about one another
- How Charities and business are run
- How we treat one another privately and publicly



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The Power Of Unity

Genesis 11:1-9 - *Now the whole earth had one language and one speech. And it came to pass, as they journeyed from the east, that they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and they dwelt there. Then they said to one another, "Come, let us make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They had brick for stone, and they had asphalt for mortar. And they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, and a tower whose top is in the heavens; let us make a name for ourselves, lest we be scattered abroad over the face of the whole earth."*

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The Power Of Unity

*But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. And the Lord said, “Indeed the **people are one** and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.” So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the Lord confused the language of all the earth; and from there the Lord scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.*

R e l a t i o n s h i p s M a t t e r

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What Does Unity Look Like

Has it ever occurred to you that one hundred pianos all tuned to the same fork are automatically tuned to each other? They are of one accord by being tuned, not to each other, but to another standard to which each one must individually bow. So one hundred worshipers met together, each one looking away to Christ, are in heart nearer to each other than they could possibly be, were they to become 'unity' conscious and turn their eyes away from God to strive for closer fellowship.” A.W. Tozer

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“I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;

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What Unity is Not

- Unity is not Tolerance
- Unity is not agreeing with Sin
- Unity is not avoiding the hard conversations

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1 Corinthians 8, Romans 11

Debatable Matters
Primary and Secondary issues

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An Active working Unity

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***Indeed the people are one (in me) there is
nothing they cannot do.***

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