

THE BROADLANDS BROADCAST

Galatians 3:28

**There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man,
there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.**

We have come through an unprecedented year and election season that has had the potential to tear the church apart.

I Praise the Lord that we remain united and I pray that we can remain unified regardless what this old sinful world throws our way.

I love y'all!

Tim Bergen

8 Ways To Promote Unity In Your Church

by David Worcester

From my reading in Ephesians 4 in the One Year Bible New Testament.

1. Be humble.

Always be humble... Ephesians 4:2

Unity requires humility. A humble person is willing to sacrifice their ego and desires for the sake of the group.

2. Be Gentle.

... and gentle... Ephesians 4:2

A gentle person as a way of calming those around them. They have the ability to deal with hard situations in a graceful way. Inevitably there will be conflict within the Church. A gentle person will know the right way to deal with it.

3. Be Patient.

...Be patient with each other... Ephesians 4:2

A patient person keeps calm even when those around them are being irritating.

4. Be understanding.

...making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. Ephesians 4:2

People are sinful and will let you down. Knowing that fact will help you be understanding when they do. Don't expect perfection from your church family because you will be disappointed.

5. Work hard for peace.

Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. Ephesians 4:3

Unity and peace take hard work. You must be willing to put in the effort to make unity really happen.

6. Celebrate each other's unique gifts.

However, he has given each one of us a special gift through the generosity of Christ. Ephesians 4:7

Each person should faithfully use the gifts they have been given, while at the same time celebrating the gifts of others. Problems come when a person with one gift looks down on others who do not exhibit the same gift they have.

7. Follow those with leadership gifts.

Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:11-12

God has given people with leadership gifts to the Church in order to equip the members to do the work of the ministry. Someone who is promoting unity in the church will follow spiritual leadership within the limits of scripture.

8. Speak the truth in love.

Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. Ephesians 4:15

There will be times that you will need to say hard things to someone. It is important to do this in a loving way. As you do this with one another God will help you grow and will unite you as a group.

Which of these things do you need to apply today?

<https://bit.ly/3pLL3IG>

How can a church achieve a true, biblical unity?

The Bible underscores the importance of “unity” and “oneness.” Unity with others is “good” and “pleasant” (Psalm 133:1). Unity is absolutely essential because the church is the “body of Christ” (1 Corinthians 12:27), and a body cannot be in disunity or disharmony with itself. If disunity occurs, it essentially ceases to be a body and becomes a disjointed group of individuals. Jesus’ plan for His church is people unified in the faith.

The secret to unity begins with how we view ourselves within the body and how we view others. The key verse that addresses this is Philippians 2:3: “Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves.” Disunity in a church is most often caused when we act selfishly and consider ourselves better than others. Paul goes on to explain further in the following verse: “Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others.” Sadly, churches that experience disunity and are in conflict and turmoil are generally filled with people looking to their own needs, their own desires, and their own ambitions. Such behavior is characteristic of unbelievers, not those with the mind of Christ. Worldliness, not godliness, is the hallmark of the disunited church, as Paul reminded the Corinthians: “For you are yet carnal. For in that there is among you envyings and strife and divisions, are you not carnal, and do you not walk according to men?” (1 Corinthians 3:3).

But Paul tells us that we are to consider others’ needs before our own. In all modesty, humility and lowliness of mind, we are to “be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love” (Ephesians 4:2). A church filled with such people cannot help but have peace, unity, and harmony. The truly humble person sees his own faults in light of the perfections of Christ; he does not seek to see the faults of others, but when he does, he speaks the truth in love and desires their sanctification so they will be built up in the image of Christ. He sees his own heart and the corruption that lies hidden there, along with impure motives and evil ambitions. But he does not seek to notice the errors, defects, and follies of others. He sees the depravity of his own heart and hopes charitably in the goodness of others and believes their hearts are more pure than his.

Most importantly, as Christians, we are to see one another in the light of the cross. Fellow Christians are those for whom Christ died a horrible and painful death so that He

might exchange His righteous perfection for their sin (2 Corinthians 5:21). How can we not extend to them the love, compassion, and grace of our heavenly Father? How can we demean, criticize, and defame those covered with the precious blood of Christ? Were we not slaves to sin when He called us, hopelessly lost, dead in our own transgressions and sins (Ephesians 2:1)? But we are now slaves of Christ, slaves to righteousness, and as slaves of the Master, the task before us is not to quarrel and demand our needs be met but to reflect His grace and love to those who are also His by His mercy. A church full of such people enjoying their “common salvation” will be a true, biblical church unified in, and earnestly contending for, the “faith once delivered to the saints” (Jude 1:3).

<https://bit.ly/2McBZYS>

February Birthdays & Anniversaries

Sue Cronce 2nd
Sylvia Fontenot 5th
Hettie Morgan 7th
Al Kochell 9th
Kim Courville 10th
Chris and Kathy Lee 12th
James Carpenter 13th
Bo Cooley 13th
Albert Ragle 13th
Sarah Harrington 14th
Jackie Friend 18th
Kelly Courville 22nd
Jesse Chisholm 24th
Jessica Fontenot 24th
Linda Miller 24th
Chris Lee 26th
Walter Fontenot 27th

Nursery Worker Schedule

02/07 ----- Evelyn & Janice Smithkors
02/14 & 02/21 Jessica Fontenot
02/28 & 03/07 Judy Bergen & Teresa Smith

Elder/Deacon Schedule

02/07 David Smith
02/14 Austin Arabie
02/21 Tim Bergen
02/28 Geoff Lee

Activities

LEADERSHIP MEETING—Friday, 02/12 @ 6:00 pm
COMMUNION—Sunday, 02/14