

# The Reality Of Unity

Worth It – Living The Worthy Life – Part 3  
Gary Chappel – September 9, 2018

## What I need to know about unity:

1. God values unity. Psalms 133; John 17:20-23
2. AS a sinful person, I have an aversion to unity. Isaiah 53:6
3. WE have been given unity. Ephesians 4:1-6
4. I have to work to maintain unity. Ephesians 4:3
5. Intentional effort is required to restore unity.

## I'm working to restore and maintain unity when I...

### 1. Recognize disunity, and desire unity.

*You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.*

<sup>14</sup> *For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."* <sup>15</sup> *If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.*

Galatians 5:13-15 (NIV)

### 2. Love the family of God.

*My goal is that they may be encouraged in heart and united in love, so that they may have the full riches of complete understanding, in order that they may know the mystery of God, namely, Christ,...* Col. 2:2 (NIV)

*And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.*

Colossians 3:14 (NIV)

### 3. Pursue maturity.

*"...until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to **mature manhood** (to a full grown man), to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ, <sup>14</sup> 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.*

<sup>15</sup> *Rather, **speaking the truth in love**, we are to **grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ**, <sup>16</sup> 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**."*

Ephesians 4:13-16 (ESV)

## Fruits of pursuing maturity:

### ➤ I Accept my brother.

*"Therefore, **accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.**"*

Romans 15:7 (NASB)

### ○ Acceptance is not approval!

*"Now **accept the one who is weak in faith**, but not for the purpose of **passing judgment on his opinions**. ... <sup>3</sup> ... **for God has accepted him.**"*  
<sup>4</sup> ***Who are you to judge the servant of another? To his own master he stands or falls; and he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand.**"*

Romans 14:1-4 (NASB)

### ○ Unity is not uniformity!!

### ➤ I Value diversity.

*"For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, **so it is with Christ.**"*

<sup>13</sup> ***For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body** ... and all were made to drink of **one Spirit**.* <sup>14</sup> ***For the body does not consist of one member but of many...*** <sup>18</sup> ***But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose...*** But God has so composed the body, ... <sup>25</sup> ***that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.***

<sup>26</sup> ***If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together."***

1 Corinthians 12:12-26 (ESV)