

Bind Us Together

“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.²⁴ “Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.²⁵ “Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me.²⁶ I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

John 17:20-26

A unified church, under the Lordship of Jesus, is the most unstoppable force the world will ever know.

Unity matters to God!

Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other’s faults because of your love.³ **Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit**, binding yourselves together with peace.⁴ For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future.

Ephesians 4:2-4

Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, **which binds them all together in perfect unity.**

Colossians 3:12-17

1. Support and care for one another.

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Philippians 2:3-4

Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.

John 13:34

2. Share what God gives you.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:10

Has the LORD redeemed you? Then speak out! Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies.

Psalms 107:2

3. Let Jesus do what only He can do.

I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.

John 17:23 NLT

And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Ephesians 1:22-23

4. Seek opportunities to stand out together.

Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you. Romans 12:1-2 MSG

Then I will purify the lips of the peoples, that all of them may call on the name of the LORD and serve him shoulder to shoulder.

Zephaniah 3:9

Bind Us Together

“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.²⁴ “Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am, and to see my glory, the glory you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.²⁵ “Righteous Father, though the world does not know you, I know you, and they know that you have sent me.²⁶ I have made you known to them, and will continue to make you known in order that the love you have for me may be in them and that I myself may be in them.”

John 17:20-26

A unified church, under the Lordship of Jesus, is the most unstoppable force the world will ever know.

Unity matters to God!

Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other’s faults because of your love.³ **Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit**, binding yourselves together with peace.⁴ For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future.

Ephesians 4:2-4

Therefore, as God’s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.¹³ Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you.

¹⁴ And over all these virtues put on love, **which binds them all together in perfect unity.**

Colossians 3:12-17

1. _____ and _____ for one another.

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Philippians 2:3-4

Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.

John 13:34

2. _____ what God gives you.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.

1 Peter 4:10

Has the LORD redeemed you? Then speak out! Tell others he has redeemed you from your enemies.

Psalms 107:2

3. Let _____ do what only He can do.

I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me.

John 17:23 NLT

And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Ephesians 1:22-23

4. Seek _____ to stand out together.

Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without even thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.

Romans 12:1-2 MSG

Then I will purify the lips of the peoples, that all of them may call on the name of the LORD and serve him shoulder to shoulder.

Zephaniah 3:9