

# "One Another" - Unity

October 14, 2018

*How can I maintain or promote a spirit of unity in our church?*

We can be frozen together by duty or obligation, by obedience or necessity, or, we can be melted together in warm, endearing, authentic & zealous, brotherly love - which in turn would give us God's power to be a fervent & effective House of Prayer & Worship, resulting in a world-wide witnessing & disciple-making church.

This begins with loving one another, in unity... Is this our desire?

## Colossians 3:12+13

1) By Forgiving One Another To The Same Degree That We Have Been Forgiven

Sometimes we're deceived into thinking that holding-on to hurt will bring us a degree of angry-pleasure, which after indulging in long enough, then turns on us - metastasizing into a cancer of the mind, heart and soul.

*"Bitterness is the offspring of an unhealed wound, whose parents are unforgiveness and time."*

Ask God time and again, to give you the grace to *fully* forgive, and show love.

## Romans 15:5-7

2) By Being Of The Same Mind, As We Also Accept One Another

The Bible reminds us that '*we have the mind of Christ*' (2 Cor.2:16). So it's through the Spirit of God and the Word of God, that we have the spiritual capacity in Christ to be of the same mind, especially as it relates to the church - concerning how we're to function, with decisions we're to make, with how we're to be structured, etc., etc.

This isn't easy; we need "God, who gives perseverance and encouragement".

We need look to Spirit-filled and Spirit-minded men, woman and youth - while we also need to look-out, for the enemy.

*"If there's one thing required in God's Church today, it's that we present a united front to the enemy - as there's a great need of aggressive unity!"*

## Galatians 5:26

3) By Not Challenging One Another Or Envying One Another

There's something to be said about our human desire to challenge one another. The Bible quickly connects this to boastfulness or pride... As well as envy or jealousy.

Why do we challenge others in the church? More often than not, it's because of selfishness - we want what we want.

Another reason people tend to challenge others in the church, is because of their misperceived stature of others, accompanied by a superior self-image. **Romans 12:16 - 1 Corinthians 12:23**

Another reason people tend to challenge others in the church is because they don't trust the leadership or more specifically, that *God has brought* the leadership - which in some cases may be true... Time will tell.

Is the leadership in it for the betterment of themselves, or the church?... Are they in it for their future, or the church's future? Are they feeding the sheep, nurturing the sheep & tending to them?... Or, are they neglecting them in these ways?

## James 4:11+12

Jesus has given us an alternative - to forgive each other for the pokes that we receive, so we can stay together & warm. **James 5:16**