

“Ephesians: God’s Glorious Design”

The Conduct of the Church: Why Unity Is Essential

- I. The Calling of the church, Eph 1.1—3.21
 - II. The Conduct of the Body of Jesus, Eph 4.1—6.24
 - A. Our walk in unity, Eph 4.1-16
 1. What unity looks like, Eph 4.1-3
 2. Why unity is essential, Eph 4.4-6
- one body — the universal Body of Jesus (Eph 1.23; 2.16; 3.5-6)
 - one Spirit — mentioned in Eph 2.18, 22, Paul is pointing us to the Holy Spirit
 - one hope — our unity of one Body in one Spirit comes from our “calling” which sets the foundation for our “hope”
 - one Lord — our Redeemer, Eph 1.7; our Referral to God, Eph 1.12-13; our Refuge, Eph 1.14; our Reconciliation, Eph 1.16; our Righteous Head, Eph 1.22
 - one faith —
 - one baptism —
 - one God and Father —

To “be” the Church of Jesus . . .

- How much of my mental energy, thinking, planning, pondering, even praying is focused on my own life, personal desires, possessions, or well being? Don’t be bashful, put down a percentage!
- Whose kingdom would those I work with, play with, or neighbor with, say I’m building? . . . Why would they say that?
- How do I use my time, which isn’t committed to my legitimate responsibilities toward my family or job, so that it draws me closer to others or serves others’ lives?
- Who really has easy access to my home, my thoughts, my prayers, my resources?
- What do I do that creates, builds, nurtures a common, connected life with others in the Body of Jesus?
- Does anyone hold me accountable for how I use my time or resources?
- Does anyone hold me accountable for my character, actions, attitudes?