Building A Healthy Church:

UNITY & PARTICIPATION

Eph 4:1-6

1st May 2022

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Godly **COMMUNITY** is Gods design for **UNITY**

Eph 4:1-6

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The godly *community* in Gods design for *unity* involves

HUMILITY

Eph 4:2

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This is what it means for you to be "in Christ":

- **1 Corinthians 1:4**, we receive grace in Christ.
- **Romans 3:24**, our redemption is in Christ.
- **Galatians 2:17**, we are justified in Christ.
- **Ephesians 4:32**, we have forgiveness of sins in Christ.
- **Romans 8:1**, there is no condemnation in Christ.
- **2 Corinthians 5:17**, a new creation in Christ.
- **Romans 6:23**, we have eternal life in Christ.
- **Ephesians 1:3**, we have every spiritual blessing of heaven in Christ
- **Colossians 1:28**, we will be presented to God perfect in Christ.
- **Romans 8:32**, we cannot be separated from the love of God in Christ.

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The godly *community* in Gods design for *unity* involves

GENTLENESS

Eph 4:2

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STRENGTH UNDER CONTROL

- Jesus “meek and lowly in heart” (Matt. 11:29)
- Moses was a meek man (Num. 12:3)

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The godly *community* in Gods design for *unity* involves

PATIENCE

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"long-tempered" = the ability to endure discomfort without fighting back.

1 Cor 13:4-6

"Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. It does not demand its own way. It is not irritable, and it keeps no record of being wronged. It does not rejoice about injustice but rejoices whenever the truth wins out."

- Describing some of the "fruit of the Spirit" (Gal. 5:22–23);
- The "unity of the Spirit" (Eph. 4:3) is the result of the believer "walking in the Spirit"

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The godly *community* in Gods design for *unity* involves *EFFORT*

Eph 4:3

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The Godly *community* in Gods design for *unity* involves *PEACE*

Eph 4:3

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James 3:13—4:10

war and peace in the New Testament.

THE REASON FOR WAR ON THE OUTSIDE IS WAR ON THE INSIDE.

When “the peace of God” rules in our hearts, then we build unity (Col. 3:15).

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THE GROUNDS OF UNITY

(EPH 4:4–6)

Paul names here the seven basic spiritual realities that unite all true followers of Jesus Christ.

- **ONE BODY.**
- **ONE SPIRIT.**
- **ONE HOPE.**
- **ONE LORD.**
- **ONE FAITH.**
- **ONE BAPTISM.**
- **ONE GOD AND FATHER.**

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SO WHAT?

1 Cor 10:16-17

"When we bless the cup at the Lord's Table, aren't we sharing in the blood of Christ? And when we break the bread, aren't we sharing in the body of Christ? And though we are many, we all eat from one loaf of bread, showing that we are one body."

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One word stands out because it is repeated again and again -- the Greek word koinonia:

- "participation" (NIV),
- "communion" (KJV)
- "sharing" (NRSV).

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THE CUP OF BLESSING WHICH WE BLESS, IS IT NOT THE COMMUNION OF THE BLOOD OF CHRIST?

THE BREAD WHICH WE BREAK, IS IT NOT THE COMMUNION OF THE BODY OF CHRIST?

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Communion
Remembering His sacrifice.

COMMUNION AT NEW LIFE CHURCH

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