

## We Are One: United to Jesus

### Jesus is the resurrection and the life → The United Life

<sup>4</sup>But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, <sup>5</sup>that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) <sup>6</sup>For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus. Ephesians 4:6

### The United Life interrupted

<sup>4</sup>"You won't die!" the serpent replied to the woman. <sup>5</sup>"God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, **knowing both good and evil.**"

<sup>6</sup>**The woman was convinced.** She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. Genesis 3:4-6

Oneness with God ended when eve exercised her individualism  
Individualism-the habit or principle of being independent or self reliant

### Back to the Garden → Jesus in place of the individual

My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. Galatians 2:20

<sup>21</sup>I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. John 17:21

### Illustrated in Marriage → submit to each other out of reverence for Christ (Ephesians 5:21)

As the Scriptures say, "A man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one." This is a great mystery, but it is an illustration of the way Christ and the church are one. Ephesians 5:31-32

### One Heart and one Attitude

Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? <sup>2</sup>Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose. Philippians 2:1-2

You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.  
Though he was God,  
he did not think of equality with God  
as something to cling to.  
Instead, he gave up his divine privileges;  
he took the humble position of a slave  
and was born as a human being.  
When he appeared in human form,  
he humbled himself in obedience to God  
and died a criminal's death on a cross. Philippians 2:5-8

### Next to Jesus Everything is Garbage...

<sup>7</sup>I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. <sup>8</sup>Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and become one with him Philippians 3:7-9

### ...And Jesus is everything

<sup>37</sup>Jesus replied, "'You must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' <sup>38</sup>This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup>A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' <sup>40</sup>The entire law and all the demands of the prophets are based on these two commandments." Matthew 22:37-40

### Why is this the road less traveled? –The individual, SELF must die

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. <sup>25</sup>If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake, you will save it. Matthew 16:24-25

<sup>16</sup> “For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

### Jesus’ Prayer...

It was Jesus’ prayer: <sup>21</sup> I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. John 7:21

### ...And now our prayer

<sup>23</sup> Search me, O God, and know my heart;  
test me and know my anxious thoughts.

<sup>24</sup> Point out anything in me that offends you,  
and lead me along the path of everlasting life. Psalm 139:23-24

### Unity through Faith in Jesus Christ: What it looks like

#### 1. We will have a growing love for God

a. We love because he loved us first. 1 John 4:19

b. And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.’ Mark 12:30

#### 2. We will have a growing love for others

The second is equally important: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself. Mark 12:31

#### 3. We will strive to obey God’s commandments

We know we love God’s children if we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup> Loving God means keeping his commandments, and his commandments are not burdensome. 1 John 5:2-3

#### 4. We will have a desire to connect with God through reading the bible and praying

Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation 1 Peter 2:2

#### 5. We will have a desire to tell others about God

So we are Christ’s ambassadors; God is making his appeal through us. We speak for Christ when we plead, “Come back to God!” 2 Corinthians 5:20

#### 6. We will want to fulfill our purpose here on earth (God put me here for a reason)

Work hard to show the results of your salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. <sup>13</sup> For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him. Philippians 2:12-13