

***Possessing the Territory
Preserving Our Unity
Ephesians 4:1-6***

Veteran's Day...

Pray for Veterans...

→ Speak to Political, Social, and Health climate

Michael Brown book, "Evangelicals at the Crossroads: Will We Pass the Trump Test?"

- 1. We must clearly and emphatically put the cross before the flag.***
- 2. We must put greater emphasis on spiritual activity than on political activity.***
- 3. We must not get caught up with election fever.***
- 4. We must not justify carnality and unchristian behavior.***
- 5. We must regain our prophetic voice.***
- 6. We must walk in love towards those who vilify us and oppose us.***
- 7. We must unite around Jesus rather than divide over our President.***
- 8. We must lead the nation in repentance, knowing that repentance prepares the way of the Lord, opening a path for revival, visitation and awakening.***

The Church in America needs revival!

***Donald Trump can't
bring revival and
Joe Biden can't
block revival!!!***

This is our opportunity to rise up!

The season and climate is ripe for revival!

***Let's begin today RAISING OUR PRAISE to the only
One who can bring revival!***

Today we are beginning a new series I've titled,
"Possessing the Territory"

Our focus theme for this series is as follows

***Jesus is releasing the victory He won on the Cross
through His body, the Church as He advances His
Kingdom here on earth.***

During this series we have been attempting to unlock
THREE ESSENTIAL COMPONENTS to move from FAILURE
into VICTORY!

The 1st Essential Component is...

"Knowing Your Identity"

Two weeks ago we looked at the 2nd Essential
Component...

"Unleashing Your Authority"

Last week we looked at the 3rd Essential Component...

“Fulfilling Your Responsibility”

This week I’ve titled the message, “Preserving Our Unity!”

Over the next several weeks, we are going to be hearing a lot about America coming together in UNITY...

Our key truth for today is...

ONE THING

Christian unity is the formation of oneness by the Spirit for the cohesive togetherness of believers.

Paul’s letter to the Ephesians divides into THREE sections...

Section 1 focuses on us being SEATED with Jesus in authority over our enemy...

Section 2 focuses on us WALKING in the Spirit

Section 3 is focused on us STANDING against Satan

Our text we are focused on today is in Section 2 where we are told how we are to walk...

Ephesians 4:1–6 (ESV) — I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,

eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

1. Jesus PURCHASED our Unity

Ephesians 4:1 (ESV) — I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called

Every true believer has been called by the Lord...

John 6:44 (ESV) — No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws him.

On the night Jesus was betrayed He prayed for us!

Not only did Jesus PURCHASE our unity, but He PRAYED for our unity!

John 17:20–23 (ESV) — I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

It’s important to note that while Jesus purchased our UNITY, we must see who it is that can experience this UNITY...

John 17:20 (ESV) — I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word

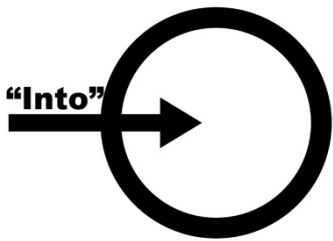
Let's focus first on a particular word Jesus uses here...

John 17:20 (ESV) — I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word

The word, "IN" used here is the Greek word that means INTO...

→ PIC – Moving INTO

Moving INTO something



Now let's go back and read this entire section of Jesus' prayer for us...

John 17:20–23 (ESV) — I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

→ PIC – Being INSIDE

Being INSIDE something



When a person gives their life to Jesus, they are ushered INTO the Unity of the Trinity of God and dwell INSIDE their Unity...

1. Jesus PURCHASED our Unity

2. The Spirit PRODUCES our Unity

Ephesians 4:2–3 (ESV) — with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Notice that our Unity is designated as "the unity of the Spirit..."

It is the Holy Spirit that PRODUCES our Unity as believers...

Matthew 18:20 (ESV) — For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them.

This means being gathered together in the unity of the Spirit...

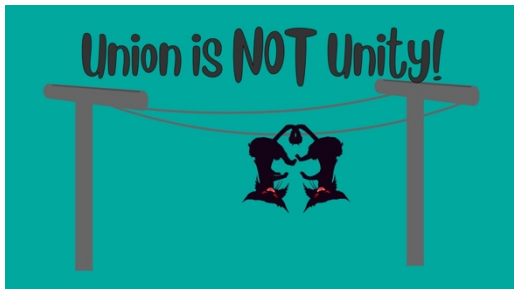
We are going to hear how America must come together in UNITY...

The problem is that UNITY apart from a vital relationship with Jesus is NOT real unity...

This world can only produce a false unity or a faux unity!

A FAUX Unity is a FORCED UNION...

→ Pic – Union is NOT Unity



- Two cats tied together by their tails and then hung over a clothes line...
- They are in UNION, but NOT functioning in UNITY!

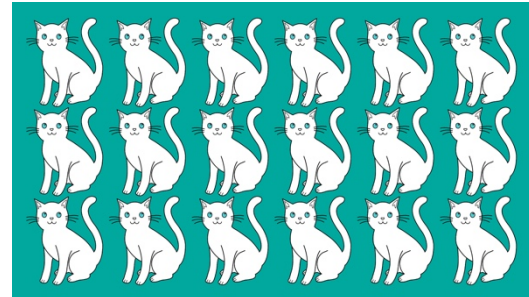
Difference between UNITY and UNION...

- **Union is Alliance**
- **Unity is Reliance**

- **Union is Closeness**
- **Unity is Oneness**

A FALSE Unity is a FORCED UNIFORMITY...

→ Pic – Union is NOT Uniformity



Difference between Unity and Uniformity...

- **Uniformity is Forced**
- **Unity is Formed**

- **Uniformity is Sameness**
- **Unity is Oneness**

3. The Enemy POISONS our Unity

Ephesians 4:3 (ESV) — eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Let's look at this verse in the NLT...

Ephesians 4:3 (NLT) — Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.

“Eager to maintain” means “Work to Preserve”

Satan is constantly attempting to poison our Unity in order to divide us and weaken our effectiveness...

Because we still have a sinful nature that is prideful and self-centered we MUST daily surrender to the guidance of the Holy Spirit...

1 Corinthians 1:10 (ESV) — I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.

Why was Paul appealing to them in this way...

Because there were divisions among them...

1 Corinthians 3:1, 3 (NLT) — Dear brothers and sisters, when I was with you I couldn’t talk to you as I would to spiritual people. I had to talk as though you belonged to this world or as though you were infants in Christ. ... And you still aren’t ready, for you are still controlled by your sinful nature. You are jealous of one another and quarrel with each other. Doesn’t that prove you are controlled by your sinful nature? Aren’t you living like people of the world?

James 1:14 (NLT) — Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away.

4. God’s Word PROTECTS our Unity

Ephesians 4:4–6 (NLT) —For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all, in all, and living through all.

One Body...

One Spirit...

One Hope...

One Lord...

One Faith...

One Baptism...

One God...

Hebrews 4:12 (ESV) — For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

God’s Word is the fence around us that keeps us together...

November 8, 2020

Crossgates – AM Sermon

David Jett

***Possessing the Territory
Persevering Our Unity
Ephesians 4:1-6***

1. Jesus _____ our Unity

2. The Spirit _____ our Unity

3. The Enemy _____ our Unity

4. God's Word _____ our Unity