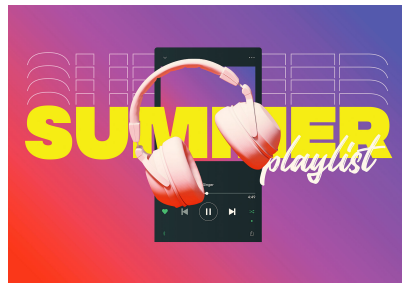


SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia @10:10 Message...

Sacred Unity

With Jeremy Vasic
Multiply & Mobilize Catalyst
August 15, 2021



Ephesians 4:1-6 Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. ²Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. ³Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. ⁴For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. ⁵There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all, in all, and living through all.

Eph. 4:1 Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God.

Eph. 4:2-3 Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. ³Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace.

Unity is core to our calling as followers of Jesus.

Galatians 5:19-23 When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, the results are very clear: sexual immorality, impurity, lustful pleasures, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, hostility, quarreling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, dissension, division, ²¹envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other sins like these. Let me tell you again, as I have before, that anyone living that sort of life will not inherit the Kingdom of God. ²²But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

Unity requires effort.

Unity reflects the united God to the world.

Eph. 4:4-6 For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. ⁵There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all, in all, and living through all.

John 17:20-23 "I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. ²¹I 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. ²²I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. ²³I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me."

Big Idea: Pursue unity in the body of Christ by pursuing the God of unity.

Philippians 2:1-8 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? ²Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose. ³Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. ⁴Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. ⁵You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had. ⁶Though he was God, he did not think of equality with God as something to cling to. ⁷Instead, 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, ⁸he humbled himself in obedience to God and died a criminal's death on a cross.

Unity begins with repentance.

Unity grows with praise.

Unity lasts by the power of the Spirit.

Prayer for unity: *Lord, we acknowledge that you are a God of perfect unity. You are perfectly humble, gentle, and patient with us. We confess that we have, at times, ignored you. We confess that we have contributed towards division amongst our brothers and sisters, wronging them, and wronging you. Thank you for your grace and your forgiveness, Lord. Help us to be one, just as you are one. Help us to pursue you, and your desires, more than our own. Make us humble. Make us gentle. Make us patient, Lord. Unite us, by the power of your Spirit. In Jesus name, Amen.*



**Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
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Family of Servants on Mission.**

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

Sacred Unity

#4 of 7 - August 15, 2021

1. What stood out to you from this message?
2. Read Ephesians 4:1-6. What is the significance of verse 1? Why would Paul emphasize the “calling” from God? (Hint: When you see ‘therefore’...)
3. What do you notice about Paul’s focus in this passage? Why do you think he began with these instructions in verse 2?
4. What do you think would have been most difficult about Paul’s instructions for the early Church? What would have been the easiest? How do you think they would have responded?
5. Do the words of Paul have the same meaning for us today? Why or why not?
6. Read John 17:20-23. How do the words of Jesus give us inspiration to pursue unity? What do you think is the most difficult part of Jesus’ prayer for his followers?
7. What will you do to better reflect a united God to the world? What is one potentially divisive behaviour God is asking you to repent of?
8. What will you do to grow in your praise and adoration of Jesus this week?
9. Commit to praying together for unity amongst the church in the city, in Canada, and in the world. Use the “Prayer for unity” in the notes as a guide.



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