



Tightening Down Unifying Straps
(binding us together)



Tightening Down Unifying Straps

Ultimate Authority: Our faith, knowledge and love of One God (Creator/Father) – One Christ (King/Word of God) – One Spirit of Truth (Eph. 4:4-5, 11-13): Convictions on Essentials and Compromise on Non-essentials. Can't sacrifice truth for unity.

Put on / Put off

Peace, Thankfulness, Gospel Dwelling

Pray, Encourage, Build-Up/Out/In:

Love, Love, Love, Love...Crazy Love

Eph. 4:4-5, 11-13

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

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PRACTICE: Teach it, Speak it, Repeat it

Put on / Put off

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Ultimate Authority

Put on / Put off: (Eph. 4:22-32) Make-over (together) – new self, clothes (Gal. 3:26-28) and new armor (Eph. 6:10-20).

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Eph. 4: 22-24

You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

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Ultimate Authority

Put on / Put off: (Eph. 4:22-32) Make-over (together) – new self, clothes (Gal. 3:26-28) and new armor (Eph. 6:10-20).

PRACTICE: The sanctification/maturing process is transparently acknowledged and discussed – setting goals, sharing goals / feedback in small groups / one-on-one discipleship / mentoring; P.O.A.B (Teach it, Speak it, Repeat it)

Peace, Thankfulness, Gospel Dwelling

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1 Pet. 2:9

But you are a chosen people, a **royal** priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

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Ultimate Authority

Put on / Put off

Peace, Thankfulness, Gospel Dwelling : Dwelling in our hearts and with each other (Col. 3:15-16)

Pray, Encourage, Build-Up/Out/In:

Love, Love, Love, Love...Crazy Love

Col. 3: 15-16

Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

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Ultimate Authority

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Peace, Thankfulness, Gospel Dwelling : Dwelling in our hearts and with each other (Col. 3:15-16)

PRACTICE: Use the language of peace, thankfulness, grace and the gospel. (Teach it, Speak it, Repeat it)

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Ultimate Authority

Put on / Put off

Peace, Thankfulness, Gospel Dwelling

Pray, Encourage, Build-Up/Out/In: All occasions, kinds, always for all (Eph. 6:18); Encourage and build up daily

Love, Love, Love, Love...Crazy Love

Eph. 6:18-20

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

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Ultimate Authority

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Peace, Thankfulness, Gospel Dwelling

Pray, Encourage, Build-Up/Out/In: All occasions, kinds, always for all (Eph. 6:18); Encourage and build up daily

PRACTICE: Be proactive: Ask for prayer and to pray for. How can I pray ... where do you need encouragement?
Drop a note of encouragement.

Love, Love, Love, Love...Crazy Love

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Peace, Thankfulness, Gospel Dwelling

Pray, Encourage, Build-Up/Out/In:

Love, Love, Love, Love....Crazy Love: Jesus' prayer for us (Jn. 17:23); Completely (1 Jn. 3:11, 16-18; Eph. 4:2)

1 Jn. 3:11; 3:16-18; Eph. 4:2

For this is the message you heard from the beginning: We should love one another.... This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

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PRACTICE: Be proactive: Ask with the intent to engage. Proactively, sacrificially give.

Col. 3:12-14

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.