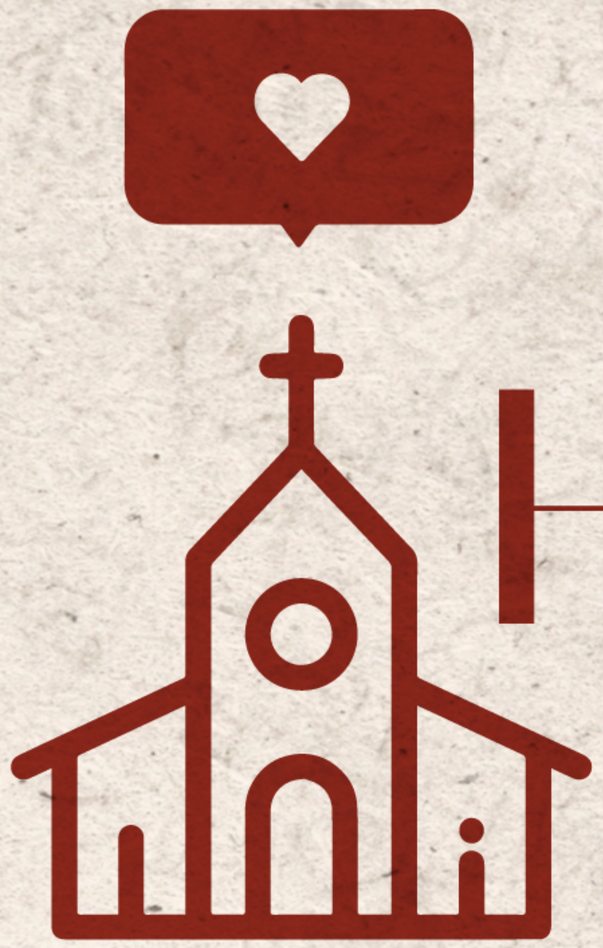


Heart for His House

EPHESIANS 4:1-16

SERVING ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE

EVEN THOUGH WE HAVE THE LIFE OF THE TRINITY IN US, **WE LIVE IN SPIRITUAL IMMATURITY UNTIL** WE'RE WILLING TO DO THE HARD WORK OF **DEVELOPING AND CREATING UNITY** IN THE CHURCH.

EPHESIANS 4:1-16

UNITY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

I THEREFORE, A PRISONER FOR THE LORD,
URGE YOU TO WALK IN A MANNER WORTHY
OF THE CALLING TO WHICH YOU HAVE
BEEN CALLED, ² WITH ALL HUMILITY AND
GENTLENESS, WITH PATIENCE, BEARING
WITH ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE, ³ EAGER TO
MAINTAIN THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT IN THE
BOND OF PEACE.

EPHESIANS 4:1-16

UNITY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

4 THERE IS ONE BODY AND ONE SPIRIT—JUST
AS YOU WERE CALLED TO THE ONE HOPE
THAT BELONGS TO YOUR CALL— 5 ONE LORD,
ONE FAITH, ONE BAPTISM, 6 ONE GOD AND
FATHER OF ALL, WHO IS OVER ALL AND
THROUGH ALL AND IN ALL. 7 BUT GRACE WAS
GIVEN TO EACH ONE OF US ACCORDING TO
THE MEASURE OF CHRIST'S GIFT.

EPHESIANS 4:1-16

UNITY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

8 THEREFORE IT SAYS,
"WHEN HE ASCENDED ON HIGH HE LED A
HOST OF CAPTIVES,
AND HE GAVE GIFTS TO MEN."
9 (IN SAYING, "HE ASCENDED," WHAT DOES IT
MEAN BUT THAT HE HAD ALSO DESCENDED INTO
THE LOWER REGIONS, THE EARTH? 10 HE WHO
DESCENDED IS THE ONE WHO ALSO ASCENDED
FAR ABOVE ALL THE HEAVENS, THAT HE MIGHT
FILL ALL THINGS.)

EPHESIANS 4:1-16

UNITY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

11 AND HE GAVE THE APOSTLES, THE PROPHETS, THE EVANGELISTS, THE SHEPHERDS AND TEACHERS, 12 TO EQUIP THE SAINTS FOR THE WORK OF MINISTRY, FOR BUILDING UP THE BODY OF CHRIST, 13 UNTIL WE ALL ATTAIN TO THE UNITY OF THE FAITH AND OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE SON OF GOD, TO MATURE MANHOOD, TO THE MEASURE OF THE STATURE OF THE FULLNESS OF CHRIST,

EPHESIANS 4:1-16

UNITY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

14 SO THAT WE MAY NO LONGER BE
CHILDREN, TOSSED TO AND FRO BY THE
WAVES AND CARRIED ABOUT BY EVERY WIND
OF DOCTRINE, BY HUMAN CUNNING, BY
CRAFTINESS IN DECEITFUL SCHEMES.
15 RATHER, SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE, WE
ARE TO GROW UP IN EVERY WAY INTO HIM
WHO IS THE HEAD, INTO CHRIST,

EPHESIANS 4:1-16

UNITY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

16 FROM WHOM THE WHOLE BODY,
JOINED AND HELD TOGETHER BY EVERY
JOINT WITH WHICH IT IS EQUIPPED,
WHEN EACH PART IS WORKING
PROPERLY, MAKES THE BODY GROW SO
THAT IT BUILDS ITSELF UP IN LOVE.

1. HUMILITY, NOT PRIDE

“

CHARLES STANLEY SAYS THERE IS TWO MAIN REASONS THAT PEOPLE DON’T SERVE. THE FIRST IS PRIDE THINKING YOU ARE ABOVE WHAT IS BEING ASKED. THE SECOND IS PRIDE. STANLEY CALLS IT A FEAR OF FAILURE

”

TO AVOID SERVICE IN THE FAMILY OF GOD IS WHAT PAUL WOULD SAY IS SPIRITUAL IMMATURITY.

2.SELF GIVING, NOT SELF LIVING

THE SELF-GIVING NATURE OF GOD IS SEEN IN THE TRINITY WHICH IS THE CENTRAL UNDERSTANDING FOR LOVE MATURITY AND SERVICE.

3. UNITY THROUGH LOVE

“

THE BIBLICAL GOD IS A COMMUNITY OF PERSONS INSIDE ONE BEING, AND IN THAT COMMUNITY THERE’S PERFECT HARMONY, PERFECT LOVE, PERFECT COMMUNICATION, PERFECT ONENESS. THEY ABSOLUTELY SERVE ONE ANOTHER, LOVE ONE ANOTHER. ABSOLUTE ONENESS. WHAT THAT MEANS, OF COURSE, IS VERY SIMPLE.

— Tim Keller

”

“IF YOU WANT TO BECOME LIKE GOD, IF YOU WANT TO HAVE THIS DIVINE LIFE GROW AND YOU GROW INTO MATURITY, IT ONLY HAPPENS WHEN THAT LIFE OF THE TRINITY IS REFLECTED IN THIS LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY. THAT MEANS, BY THE WAY, YOU CANNOT JUST DROP IN ON CHURCH AND EXPECT THAT YOU’RE GOING TO GROW.”

— Tim Keller

“

THAT MEANS, OF COURSE, YOU ALSO CAN’T BE ON THE OUTS WITH PEOPLE.
DO YOU REALIZE HOW ABSOLUTELY OUTRAGEOUS AND INAPPROPRIATE IT IS FOR YOU TO HAVE THE LIFE OF THE TRINITY IN YOU, AND YET THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE AROUND THAT YOU AVOID BECAUSE YOU’RE KIND OF ON THE OUTS WITH THEM? HOW DARE WE DO THAT?

— Tim Keller

”

HOW DO WE REGAIN LOST UNITY?

TRUTH + LOVE

“

GOD’S GRACE TO YOU IN YOUR TIMES OF SUFFERING PREPARES YOU TO BECOME AN EFFECTIVE MINISTER OF GOD TO THOSE WHO ARE CURRENTLY SUFFERING. TOO OFTEN, PEOPLE IN THE CHURCH EXPECT THE PASTOR TO DO ALL THE MINISTERING TO THOSE WHO HAVE EMOTIONAL OR SPIRITUAL NEEDS

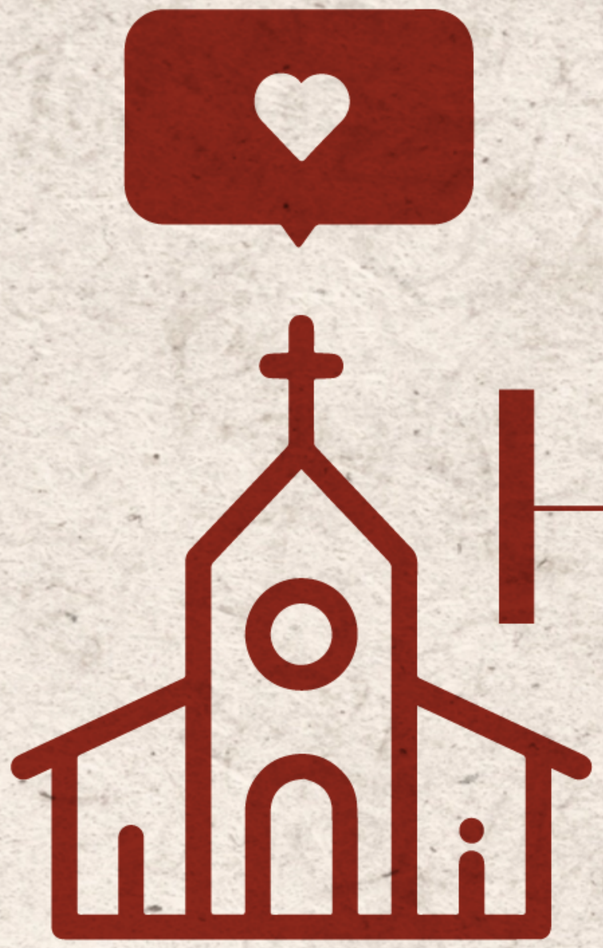
— Charles Stanley

”

4. DEPENDENT, NOT INDEPENDENT.

THE POWER OF UNITY IS SEEN IN OUR NEED FOR EACH OTHER AND IN CHRIST.

1. WE ARE DEPENDENT ON CHRIST
EPHESIANS 4:15-16
2. WE ARE DEPENDENT ON EACH OTHER
EPHESIANS 4:16



Heart for His House