

## UNITY IN CHRIST – PART 5

Introduction – On His last night before the cross, Jesus prayed that His followers would be completely united so that the world would believe in Him.

A. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit.

Ephesians 4:1-6

1. Unity requires complete humility and gentleness that bears with one another.
2. Distinguish between core Christian concepts over which we cannot compromise and matters of opinion.
3. One body – Spirit – hope – Lord – faith – baptism – God and Father of all

B. We need a variety of gifted leadership whose role is equipping every member.

Ephesians 4:7-13

1. The variety of potential leaders includes: apostles, prophets, evangelists, and teaching pastors.
2. Equipping everyone versus doing everything yourself
3. The goal is to mature everyone in Christ-like character.

C. Church growth is spiritual as well as numerical.

Ephesians 4:14-16

1. Immature people are easily deceived by others.
2. Healthy church family life requires us to speak the truth in love.
3. Connected to Christ, our head, and one another, we will naturally grow numerically and spiritually.

Conclusion – Unity requires a Christ-like attitude, good leadership, and cooperative efforts to reach out and reach in.