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**ALL IN - “We Are One in Christ”**

November 13, 2022

Ephesians 4:1-6

**WELCOME**

**OPENING**

We are one body, united in Jesus Christ. We are a church of individuals, different in many ways, yet called together by God to be one in ministry and mission. As members of the same body, we become more effective when we work in harmony as a unified whole. Among us, love for one another is the norm, conflicts are resolved according to the teaching of Jesus, and we seek to build each other up. We rejoice together, and we suffer together. Unite with us this Sunday at 10:00am as we worship together as one in Christ.

**PRAYER**

Open your time together with a moment of prayer. Invite the Holy Spirit into your conversation, and ask God to give you wisdom and discernment as you read Scripture and discuss your faith. Trust in him to guide you.

**INTO THE WORD**

Take a few moments to read the Scripture verses. You can read these passages out loud as a group or silently to yourselves.

*“Unity and Maturity in the Body of Christ”*

**Read Ephesians 4:1-6**

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

Why is unity so important in life? How would you describe unity and maturity within the church? What happens when there’s no unity? Have you experienced this before? Paul urges the readers of

Ephesians to “live a life worthy of the calling they have received.” What does that mean for you in

your life?

*“Jesus Prays for All Believers”*

**Read John 17:20-23**

John 17:20-23 NLT "I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in Me through their message. 21 I 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. 22 "I have given them the glory You gave Me, so they may be one as We are one. 23 I 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.

Why does Jesus pray for the believers to become one? How does a person become one with God? In

what ways are you allowing God to bring unity into your life? Are there any areas of brokenness that

need God’s healing touch? Past relationships? Current circumstances? Secrets that bring about

shame, doubt, guilt or fear? Pray for God to heal these areas of your life.

*“Unity and Diversity in the Body”*

**Read 1 Corinthians 12:21-27; 1 Thessalonians 5:11**

1 Corinthians 12:21-27 NLT 21 The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." 22 In fact, some parts of the body that seem weakest and least important are actually the most necessary. 23 And the parts we regard as less honorable are those we clothe with the greatest care. So we carefully protect those parts that should not be seen, 24 while the more honorable parts do not require this special care. So God has put the body together such that extra honor and care are given to those parts that have less dignity. 25 This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other. 26 If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad. 27 All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it.

1 Thessalonians 5:11 NLT 11 So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

Just as our physical bodies have many parts, so too does the body of Christ (his church). Where do

you see yourself fitting into his body (the church)? Knowing all parts of the body have equal

importance, what gifts have you been given to share with others? How are you using those gifts

today?

**APPLICATION**

This week, make a decision to use your gifts to bring about unity within the church. Ask God to heal areas of brokenness in your life and also to reveal ways in which you can be in harmony with others.