

The Secrets of Unity

The Passionate Apostolic 'PLEA for UNITY' from Philippians 2:1-4, PART TWO Verses 3-4

Introduction:

Ephesians 4:3 *being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

1 Corinthians in 1:10 *Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.*

#1 Christians have the MEANS to be Unified 1

#2 The Apostolic MANDATE for Unity 2a

#3 The Genuine MARKS of Unity 2b

#4 The Biblical M _____ for Unity 3-4

- I. Verse 3 1 *Do nothing from selfishness or 2 empty conceit, but 3 with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves;*
- II. Verse 4 4 *do not merely look out for your own personal interests, 5 but also for the interests of others.*

I. Run away from SELF-centered _____ but pursue cultivating _____ 3

1st SELFISHNESS 3a

2nd EMPTY CONCEIT 3b

Romans 11:25 *wise in your own estimation*

Galatians 6:3 *For if anyone thinks he is something when he is nothing, he deceives himself*

Hebrews 6:10 *For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered and in still ministering to the saints.*

3rd HUMILITY 3c

Proverbs 11:2 *When pride comes, then comes dishonor, But with the humble is wisdom. Proverbs 16:19 It is better to be humble in spirit with the lowly Than to divide the spoil with the proud. Numbers 12:3 Now the man Moses was very humble, more than any man who was on the face of the earth. Acts 20:19 serving the Lord with all humility 1 Peter 5:5-6 All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time Matthew 11:29 gentle and humble in heart*

3rd HUMILITY continued 3c

Philippians 3:8 *the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord*

Philippians 4:7 *the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus*

1 Corinthians 15:9 *the least of the apostles, and not fit to be called an apostle*

Ephesians 3:8 *the very least of all saints* even 1 Timothy 1:15 *the foremost of sinners*

**II. Do not allow an exclusive _____-focus
but focus on other _____ individuals 4**

**II. Verse 4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests,
5 but also for the interests of others.**

4th VALUING OTHERS; not merely yourself 4a

5th SERVING OTHERS 4b

#5 The amazing M _____ for Unity 5-11 next week

Conclusion:

1 DEFUSE C

James 4:1 *What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members? 2 You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask.*

2 DELETE C

Proverbs 16:18a *Pride goes before destruction*

Proverbs 13:10a *Through insolence comes nothing but strife*

3 DECREASE C

QUESTIONS TO PROMOTE GROWTH IN CHRISTLIKENESS - BECOME A DOER OF THE WORD...

- 1-How can God use genuine UNITY in a Christian community to be a witness for the Gospel?
- 2-What areas of SELFISHNESS and PRIDE must be crushed in your life in order to cultivate true unity?
- 3-How does HUMILITY actually assist in the process of genuine biblical unity?
- 4-Christians respond to mercy needs, but what prevents believers from the PURSUIT of meeting needs?
- 5-How does Christ's example of selflessness become a motivational model for believers to live unified?

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