



- v. 1 – We are exhorted to make every effort to live up to what we *already* are and what God has *already* given us in Christ (Phil. 3:16).
- What is this calling we have received?
 - Paul has gone to great lengths to make clear that our calling as the church is to be completely _____ as one body.
 - While living “a life worthy of the calling [we] have received” is not about unity only, it is absolutely impossible without it.
 - Thus, Paul’ great burden in prison is the unity of the church.

A.) Unity in the church demands _____ conviction (v. 4-6).

- **True Christian unity is rooted in objective truth** (Amos 3:3, 1 Cor. 1:10).
- The unity in the Spirit is based on objective, God-ordained truths that are independent of us.
- v. 4-6 – These eternal realities are the objective foundation our unity in the Spirit.

Seven Non-Negotiable Convictions of Christian Unity (v. 4-6)

- 1.) There is one _____** (1 Corinthians 12:12).
 - We have to agree that there is one universal church of all true believers in Jesus Christ, which is His body and His bride.
- 2.) There is one _____** (1 Corinthians 12:13).
 - We have to believe in the Person of the Holy Spirit who is God, and who calls, convicts, indwells, equips, transforms, and unifies.
- 3.) There is one _____** (Titus 2:13).
 - We have to agree about the return of Christ, the resurrection of the dead, and the consummation of all things in Him.
- 4.) There is one _____** (Col. 1:15-17, Romans 9:5).
 - We have to agree about Jesus Christ, who is the Son of God, God in the flesh, our only Savior, and the exalted Lord of all.
- 5.) There is one _____** (Galatians 1:8, Jude 1:3).

-- We have to believe in the one true Gospel of Jesus Christ and one authoritative Word of God, the Holy Bible.

6.) There is one _____ (Romans 6:4).

-- We have to agree about and practice believer's baptism by immersion.

7.) There is one God and _____ of all.

-- We have to agree that there is one and only one God of all who eternally exists as one God in three Persons.

B.) Unity in the church demands _____ of self.

Four Non-Negotiable Attitudes of Christian Unity (v. 2-3)

1.) _____ (Philippians 2:3-4, Titus 3:2, Micah 6:8)

-- Humility means sacrificing one's self-interests for unity.

-- The humble believer is willing to give up his opinions and preferences for the unity of the group.

2.) _____ (Pro. 29:23, Jam. 3:17, 1 Cor. 4:21, Phil. 4:5)

-- Gentleness means sacrificing one's self-importance for unity.

-- Gentleness means one would rather take a wrong than inflict one.

3.) _____ (1 Thes. 5:14, 2 Peter 3:9, Ecclesiastes 3:11)

-- Patience means sacrificing one's sense of timing for unity.

-- Just as God is patient with us, so should we be with one another.

4.) _____ (Colossians 3:13-14, Romans 15:1)

-- Forbearance means sacrificing my judgments of others for unity.

C.) Unity demands the best _____ of every member (v. 3).

-- Unity is hard...really hard...and it will not happen unless all of us are pursuing it with all of our hearts.

-- We walk unworthily of our calling in Christ if we don't do all we can to safeguard the unity between us that Christ died to obtain.

Conclusion

-- Being a member of this congregation means loving the truth and wholeheartedly pursuing humility, gentleness, patience, and forbearance for the glory of God.

-- What joy we will know, what a testimony of grace we will be, and what glory will redound to God when we all are making every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace!