



- On deathbeds the most important matters of life are on hearts.
- v. 20-21 – Just before Jesus offers Himself for you and me on the cross, our unity was of utmost importance to Him.
- *Do we as His church want what Jesus wants for His church? Do we want it with the same intensity and passion as our Lord?*

-- **Commitment to Christ requires commitment to _____.**

1.) Because there is heavenly _____ in our unity.

- The same glory God the Father gave God the Son can be found in our unity with one another in Him (v. 22, Psalm 133:1).

2.) Because God hates _____ in the church (Proverbs 6:16-19, Titus 3:10-11).

3.) Because the church itself _____ a unity.

- At the very root of the church is reconciliation between radically different people (Ephesians 2:13-16).
- Anyone who would understand the cross of Christ must esteem the paramount importance of oneness in the church.

4.) Because the pursuit of unity is a mandatory characteristic of Christ's church (v. 20-23).

- If we do not have a heart for unity, then we do not have the heart of _____ (Ephesians 4:1-3)
- We malign our walk with Christ if we don't do all we can to safeguard the unity between us that Christ died to obtain.

-- God is ever calling us to an ever-growing _____.

- v. 21 – The unity Christ wants for His church is the very unity in which God Himself exists Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- v. 26 – Jesus wants us to experience the perfect love the Father has for the Son in our love for one another.
- With unity, as with all areas of spiritual growth, God often uses trials to grow us (James 1:2-4).
- He is seeking for us a unity so strong that no storm can ever fracture our devotion to one another.

-- Unity that cannot endure _____ is not unity in Christ.

- We can rejoice in the midst of debate in the church.
- Differences among us, if handled in a God-honoring way, are a great gift from God!
- God is most glorified by true unity among vastly different people (Colossians 3:11).

-- How do we grow together through storms?

-- v. 12 – Clothe yourself with...

- **Compassion** – Sacrificing my _____ of others for unity (James 4:12).
 - **Kindness** – Sacrificing my personal _____ for unity (Ephesians 4:29-32).
 - **Humility** – Sacrificing my _____ for unity (Philippians 2:3-4).
 - **Gentleness** – Sacrificing my _____ for unity (Proverbs 29:23)
 - **Patience** – Sacrificing my sense of _____ for unity (2 Peter 3:9).
- v. 13 – **Forbearance** – Sacrificing my desire to _____ in favor of growth (Philippians 3:12).

- v. 14 – **Love** – Sacrificing _____ for others as a general rule.
 - Love according to Scripture is not a feeling we get but sacrifices we make for the good of others (1 John 3:16).
- v. 15 – As the one body of Christ, pursuing peace between us is the non-negotiable, undeniable will of God.
 - James 3:17-18, Romans 12:18
- v. 16 – God's _____ is the sole rule for our unity.

Conclusion

- What a wonderful purpose we have to grow together as one in Christ!
- Let us be filled with joy and humility about every opportunity to become one in genuinely meaningful ways.
- Our unity is in Christ and in Him alone. We are made one because Christ was broken.