

Connected in unity

Key Scripture: Eph. 4:1-6

Main point: Staying united requires that we work at it.

Key points:

1. Eph. 4:1-6. Spiritual growth comes to the church when each of us take responsibility for protecting and sustaining unity. Unity is a gift given by the Spirit.
2. V.1-"I exhort or urge." Our unity is a gift given as a "call" from the Lord to us. We are invited into this unity.
3. V.2-humility is the key to sustaining this unity. See Phil. 2:3,9. Jesus is the model for such humility. Gentleness, peace, patience is to characterize our unity.
4. V.3-Strive to preserve the unity means to adopt Christ-like attitudes to protect unity.
5. V.4-The Holy Spirit forms one body. So, division is "grievous" to the Spirit.
6. V. 5-6: Jesus is Lord over the body. Our allegiance is to Him. One faith=doctrine is agreed upon such as God's plan of salvation.

Talk it over:

1. Have you ever worked in a situation where unity is required for a successful outcome? What was required of each person?
2. If unity is a gift given to us by the Lord, name some ways we protect it?
3. Describes some Christ-like attitudes that characterize humility. Patience with each other? Gentleness?

Dig deeper:

1. CCC: #767-768. The Church revealed by the Spirit.

Scripture memory verse:

Ephesians 4:1: "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." Ephesians 4:1.