

“Biblical UNITY”

“Will result in making disciples!”

In this teaching, we will explore the biblical foundation of oneness with Christ, its implications for our lives, and its relevance for pastors who play a vital role in **fostering unity** among believers.

One important part of the message Jesus had was being one with Him and the Father.

In John 17:20-21 this amazing passage of the Bible, you can learn that Jesus prayed that you and I should be ONE with Him and the Father..

But first we will read from:

Ephesians 4:4-7

There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;

5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

7 But unto every one of us is given grace according to the (FULL) measure of the gift of Christ.

Ephesians 4 use terms as “oneness”, “unity”, “one body”, “perfecting of the saints” etc.

v.3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit

v.4 There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope

v.5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism,

v.6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

v.13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith
v.25 ... we are members one of another.

Than Paul end the chapter with:

32 And **be ye kind one to another**, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you.

The Key to Unity and Power

In the message of Jesus, there is always a profound emphasis on being one with Him and the Father.

The KEY for us (The church of Jesus) to be one/ in unity

John 17:21 KJV

21 that **they all** may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me.

In our new identity with Christ You are:

100% righteous & 100% HOLY & 100% One with the Jesus and the Father.

1 Corinthians 1:30

But of Him **you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God - and righteousness and sanctification and redemption**

This concept of oneness holds great significance for believers, as it not only brings unity but also **unlocks the power and grace available to us.**

Did God the Father answer the prayer of Jesus to be One in Him and the Father?

YES HE DID!

The Biblical Foundation of Oneness:

Ephesians 4:4-7 beautifully encapsulates the essence of oneness. It reminds us that **there is only one body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of all.**

This passage highlights the unity that exists among believers, as **we are called to share in this common bond of faith.**

It is through this oneness that we can experience the full measure of the gift of Christ, which includes His grace and power.

Furthermore, John 17:20-21 reveals Jesus' heartfelt prayer for all believers, present and future.

He prayed that they also may be one in Him and the Father.

This profound **unity between Jesus and the Father serves as the model** for our unity with Christ.

Through this oneness, the world will witness the reality of Jesus' divine mission and be drawn to believe in Him.

Implications of Oneness with Christ:

1. Unity:

Oneness with Christ leads to unity among believers.

When we recognize our shared identity in Christ, it becomes easier to set aside differences and embrace one another in love.

This unity not only strengthens the Church but also testifies to the truth of the Gospel.

2. Empowerment:

Oneness with Christ unlocks the power and grace available to us. **As we align ourselves with Him, we tap into His divine resources.**

This empowers us to fulfil our calling, minister effectively, and impact lives for His glory.

3. Transformation:

Oneness with Christ transforms us from the inside out.

It shapes our character, renews our minds, and aligns our desires with His.

This transformative process enables us to reflect His image and live a life that honours Him.

Relevance for Pastors:

As pastors, you play a crucial role in fostering unity among believers.

By teaching and exemplifying oneness with Christ, you can inspire your congregation to embrace this truth and live it out in their daily lives.

Here are some practical ways to cultivate oneness:

1. Teach and Preach:

Regularly expound on the concept of oneness with Christ, emphasising its importance and practical implications.

Help your congregation grasp the significance of unity and how it relates to their personal relationship with Jesus.

2. Encourage Fellowship:

Create opportunities for believers to connect and build relationships with one another.

Foster an environment where love, acceptance, and support are prevalent, enabling oneness to flourish.

3. Lead by Example:

As a pastor, your life serves as a model for your congregation.

Demonstrate oneness with Christ through your actions, attitudes, and relationships.

Show them what it means to be united with Him and how it impacts your ministry.

The goal of Unity

John 17:20-21

20 “My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,

21 **that all of them may be one**, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us **so that the world may believe** that you have sent me.

Matt 28:18-20

18 Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.

19 Therefore go and **make disciples** of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,

20 and teaching them to obey everything I have **commanded you**. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.”

Jesus commandment:

John 13:34-35

34 “A new command I give you: **Love one another. As I have loved you**, so you must love one another.

35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

Conclusion:

Oneness with Christ is not just a theological concept; it is a transformative reality that has the power to unite believers and unleash God's grace and power in our lives.

As pastors, embracing and teaching this truth is essential for fostering unity within the Church.

Let us strive to live in oneness with Christ, allowing His love and grace to flow through us and impact the world around us, with the result of making disciples for Jesus.