



**Becoming a Unifier**  
**February 4 & 5, 2023**

**Matthew 6:22-23 (TPT)**

"The eyes of your spirit allow revelation-light to enter into your being. If your heart is unclouded, the light floods in! But if your eyes are focused on money, the light cannot penetrate and darkness takes its place. How profound will be the darkness within you if the light of truth cannot enter!"

**Challenge:**

**Read John 13-17: Jesus' final words to His disciples before the cross.**

**Jesus Communicated Two Themes in These Chapters:**

- **How much He loves us.**
- **How much we must love one another in the church.**

**John 15:9 (GW)**

"I have loved you the same way the Father has loved me. So live in my love."

**John 15:12-13 (TPT)**

"So this is my command: Love each other deeply, as much as I have loved you. For the greatest love of all is a love that sacrifices all. And this great love is demonstrated when a person sacrifices his life for his friends."

**John 15:17 (TPT)**

"So this is my parting command: Love one another deeply!"

**Love no matter what.**

**Jesus prayed for our unity.**

**John 17:1 (NLT)**

After saying all these things, Jesus looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Glorify your Son so he can give glory back to you."

**John 17:9, 11 (GW)**

"I pray for them. I'm not praying for the world but for those you gave me, because they are yours... I won't be in the world much longer, but they are in the world, and I'm coming back to you. Holy Father, keep them safe by the power of your name, the name that you gave me, so that their unity may be like ours."

### **John 17:20-21 (GW)**

“I’m not praying only for them. I’m also praying for those who will believe in me through their message. I pray that all of these people continue to have unity in the way that you, Father, are in me and I am in you. I pray that they may be united with us so that the world will believe that you have sent me.”

## **12 Realities of Unity:**

**1**

**My unity with other believers proves to everyone I’m saved.**

### **John 13:34-35 (NLT)**

“So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you, you should love each other. Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples.”

**2**

**My model for perfect unity is the Trinity.**

### **John 17:11b (GW)**

“...Holy Father, keep them safe by the power of your name, the name that you gave me, so that their unity may be like ours.”

**3**

**My Savior’s last prayer was that we’d live in unity.**

### **John 17:21 (MSG)**

The goal is for all of them to become one heart and mind - Just as you, Father, are in me and I in you, So they might be one heart and mind with us. Then the world might believe that you, in fact, sent me.

**4**

**My God’s glory was given to me so that we’d be unified.**

### **John 17:22 (NLT)**

“I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one.”

**The purpose of God’s presence and power in our lives is to make us more loving.**

**5**

**My unity is my greatest testimony to unbelievers.**

### **John 17:23 (TPT)**

“You live fully in me and now I live fully in them so that they will experience perfect unity, and the world will be convinced that you have sent me, for they will see that you love each one of them with the same passionate love that you have for me.”

**The world won’t be won to Christ until Christians are one in Christ.**

### **1 Corinthians 9:19-23 (TPT)**

Now, even though I am free from obligations to others, I joyfully make myself a servant to all in order to win as many converts as possible. I became Jewish to the Jewish people in order to win them to the Messiah. I became like one under the law to gain the people who were stuck under the law, even though I myself am not under the law. And to those who are without the Jewish laws, I became like them, as one without the Jewish laws, in order to win them, although I'm not outside the law of God but under the law of Christ. I became "weak" to the weak to win the weak. I have adapted to the culture of every place I've gone so that I could more easily win people to Christ. I've done all this so that I would become God's partner for the sake of the gospel.

### **John 17:23 (MSG)**

I in them and you in me. Then they'll be mature in this oneness, and give the godless world evidence that you've sent me and loved them in the same way you've loved me.

## **6**

**Our unity removes fear and creates a bold church.**

### **Acts 4:24, 31 (LB)**

Then all the believers united in this prayer: "O Lord, Creator of heaven and earth and of the sea and everything in them." ... After this prayer, the building where they were meeting shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and boldly preached God's message.

**Division creates fear, but unity removes it.**

**Division destroys vision but unity brings the vision of life.**

## **7**

**When my church is unified, everybody's needs are met.**

### **Acts 4:32 (MSG)**

The whole congregation of believers was united as one - one heart, one mind! They didn't even claim ownership of their own possessions. No one said, "That's mine; you can't have it." They shared everything.

## **8**

**My baptism and communion are visible signs of unity.**

### **1 Corinthians 12:12-13 (AMP)**

For just as the body is one and yet has many parts, and all the parts, though many, form [only] one body, so it is with Christ. For by one [Holy] Spirit we were all baptized into one body, [spiritually transformed—united together] whether Jews or Greeks (Gentiles), slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one [Holy] Spirit [since the same Holy Spirit fills each life].

### **1 Corinthians 10:16b-17 (CEV)**

...When we eat the bread we break, isn't that sharing in the body of Christ? By sharing in the same loaf of bread, we become one body, even though there are many of us.

**Divisive Christians should not take communion until they heal the division.**

**9**

**My focus on our common purpose creates unity.**

**1 Corinthians 1:10 (LB)**

But, dear brothers, I beg you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to stop arguing among yourselves. Let there be real harmony so that there won't be splits in the church. I plead with you to be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.

**10**

**My realization that I'm incomplete without my church family, brings unity.**

**1 Corinthians 12:20-21, 25 (NLT)**

Yes, there are many parts, but only one body. The eye can never say to the hand, "I don't need you." The head can't say to the feet, "I don't need you." ... This makes for harmony among the members, so that all the members care for each other.

**The church should be the one place there is equality.**

**1 Corinthians 12:26-27 (NLT)**

If one part suffers, all the parts suffer with it, and if one part is honored, all the parts are glad. All of you together are Christ's body, and each of you is a part of it.

**Empathy is a key to unity.**

**11**

**My Savior Jesus died to unite us, not divide us.**

**Ephesians 2:16 (GNT)**

By his death on the cross Christ destroyed their enmity; by means of the cross he united both races into one body and brought them back to God.

**Ephesians 2:16b (LB)**

And so the feud ended at last at the cross.

**12**

**My Savior Jesus expects me to work hard at unifying my church family.**

**Ephesians 4:3 (NIV)**

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

**God will ask me one day if I did everything to unify the church.**

**Philippians 1:27-28 (MSG)**

Meanwhile, live in such a way that you are a credit to the Message of Christ. Let nothing in your conduct hang on whether I come or not. Your conduct must be the same whether I show up to see things for myself or hear of it from a distance. Stand united, singular in vision, contending for people's trust in the Message, the good news, not flinching or dodging in the slightest before the opposition. Your courage and unity will show them what they're up against: defeat for them, victory for you - and both because of God.

**Colossians 2:2 (LB)**

This is what I have asked of God for you: that you will be encouraged and knit together by strong ties of love, and that you will have the rich experience of knowing Christ with real certainty and clear understanding. For God's secret plan, now at last made known, is Christ himself.

**Colossians 3:14 (ICB)**

Do all these things; but most important, love each other. Love is what holds you all together in perfect unity.



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