

How To Speed Up Unity With the Church February 12 & 13, 2022

Rubik's terminology:

Speeding - Refers to the case at which a cube turns in order to make solving the cube smooth and quick.

Speeding Up - Refers to the biblical principles that speed up my involvement in the church and enhance my eternal relationship with my brothers and sisters in Christ.

#### Ephesians 4:1-6 (TPT)

"As a prisoner of the Lord, I plead with you to walk holy, in a way that is suitable to your high rank, given to you in your divine calling. With tender humility and quiet patience, always demonstrate gentleness and generous love toward one another, especially toward those who may try your patience. Be faithful to guard the sweet harmony of the Holy Spirit among you in the bonds of peace, being one body and one spirit, as you were all called into the same glorious hope of divine destiny. For the Lord God is one, and so are we, for we share in one faith, one baptism, and one Father. And he is the perfect Father who leads us all, works through us all, and lives in us all!"

#### John 13:34-35 (TPT)

"So I give you now a new commandment: Love each other just as much as I have loved you. For when you demonstrate the same love I have for you by loving one another, everyone will know that you're my true followers."

Satan's greatest weapons for destroying the church:

- Unrebuked gossip Proverbs 26:20 (TPT)
- Unrelenting criticism Matthew 7:1-3 (TPT)
- Unforgiving <u>hearts</u> Proverbs 24:17-18 (TPT)

#### Mark 3:24-25 (TPT)

"No kingdom can endure if it is divided against itself, and a fragmented household will not be able to stand, for it is divided."

"We cannot be divided if we focus on being <u>united</u>."

We are speeding up unity when we:



Live like a child of the King.

#### Ephesians 4:1 (TPT)

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# How?

• <u>Stop</u> imitating the self-centered goals of society.

# Romans 12:2 (TPT)

"Stop imitating the ideals and opinions of the culture around you, but be inwardly transformed by the Holy Spirit through a total reformation of how you think. This will empower you to discern God's will as you live a beautiful life, satisfying and perfect in his eyes."

• <u>Run</u> through or around life's temptations.

# 2 Timothy 2:22 (TPT)

"Run as fast as you can from all the ambitions and lusts of youth; and chase after all that is pure. Whatever builds up your faith and deepens your love must become your holy pursuit. And live in peace with all those who worship our Lord Jesus with pure hearts."

• <u>Center</u> my entire existence on God's purposes.

#### Mark 12:30-31 (NLT)

"And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these.'"



# <u>Serve</u> my church family with humble actions, not just words.

# Ephesians 4:2 (TPT)

"With tender humility and quiet patience, always demonstrate gentleness and generous love toward one another, especially toward those who may try your patience."

#### James 3:13 (NLT)

"If you are wise and understand God's ways, prove it by living an honorable life, doing good works with the humility that comes from wisdom."

# 3 <u>Refuse</u> to gossip and slander about your fellow brothers and sisters.

#### Ephesians 4:3-4 (TPT)

"Be faithful to guard the sweet harmony of the Holy Spirit among you in the bonds of peace, being one body and one spirit, as you were all called into the same glorious hope of divine destiny."

#### Ephesians 4:29-31 (NLT)

"Don't use foul or abusive language. Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them. And do not bring sorrow to God's Holy Spirit by the way you live. Remember, he has identified you as his own, guaranteeing that you will be saved on the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of evil behavior."

#### 4 Ways to destroy gossip and slander:

- Don't be the source of gossip T.H.I.N.K
- Gently confront a gossiper.
- Resist being a critical Christian.
- Remember I'm not perfect either.



<u>Make</u> every part of our ministry about God; the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit.

#### Ephesians 4:5-6 (TPT)

"For the Lord God is one, and so are we, for we share in one faith, one baptism, and one Father. And he is the perfect Father who leads us all, works through us all, and lives in us all!"

#### 2 Corinthians 3:17 (TPT)

"Now, the 'Lord' I'm referring to is the Holy Spirit, and wherever he is Lord, there is freedom."



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