

“Developing Unity”

John 17:20-23

Introduction

- I. Christians should never forget that God desires unity among the faithful (1 Cor. 1:10; Eph. 4:3-6; Acts 2:46).
- II. While the body is made of different members, the church can still have unity (Gal. 3:28).
- III. Let us notice some things that we can do to make sure that we are united.

Discussion

- I. We must all follow and stand for the truth (John 17:17; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; Jude 3).
 - A. Christians must “speak the same thing” (1 Cor. 1:10; Phil. 1:27).
 - B. What are the results of not speaking the same thing (Acts 23:7-8).
 - C. Too many times, the church has been hurt by individuals establishing things contrary to the truth.
- II. We must learn to be humble and selfless (James 4:10; Luke 9:23).
 - A. Above all things, we should want God's will to be (James 4:13-17).
 - B. Christians have the perfect example of selflessness in Jesus (Phil. 2:3-11).
 - C. We should seek good for others and not just self (1 Cor. 6:7-8; cf. Gen. 13:5-12).
- III. We must not fight amongst ourselves for control and power (Matt. 28:18; Col. 3:17).
 - A. “In fighting” leads to a lack of unity, and we have examples of such (Mark 10:35-41; 3 John 9).
 - B. Elders must make sure that they are seeking to serve self instead of serving the Lord (1 Pet. 5:1-4).
 - C. The way up is down (Mark 10:42-45).

Conclusion

- I. When it exists amongst brethren, unity is beautiful thing (Psm. 133:1).
- II. Each Christian should do his part to establish and preserve unity (Eph. 4:3).