

“Steps to Unity”

Philippians 2:1-18

Many great things are beginning to happen in our church, but one issue can threaten our strength: division in the body.

Where there is division there can be no unity. When the body of Christ is not in unity, the ministry for Christ is hurt.

Divisiveness is a very real danger to every healthy church. Division many times is caused by selfishness and a little word called ego.

If the church lives by the standard of conduct God has set for us, we will eliminate competition, selfishness, divisiveness and ego. God’s standard is very high. The only one who ever lived it to perfection was Jesus Christ. He is our model. Therefore, let us follow Him!

I. What are unity killers?

1. Selfishness: unity in the church starts with slaying the giant of selfishness.
2. Conceit: seeking after personal glory must be stopped.
3. Personal ego: unity is born out of humility, unity is also found when we look at others as important, when we are genuinely concerned for others and their interest and opinions.

II. How do we find unity? (We put the traits of Christ in our lives)

1. The trait of consolation. (v. 1)
2. The trait of love. (v. 1)
3. The trait of fellowship in the spirit. (v. 1)
4. The trait of compassion. (v. 1)
5. The trait of concern for one another’s joy. (v. 2)
6. The trait of humility or lowliness of mind. (v. 3)
7. The trait of controlling self-interest or concentration upon oneself. (v. 4)

III. Let Jesus Christ be our supreme example. (Vs. 5-11)

IV. Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling before the Lord. (Vs. 12-18)