

A Celebration of Love and Unity

with Other Sinful, Confused, Irritating, Opinionated Christians who Differ with Each Other on Important Stuff

Our Priorities:

1. Know, love and honor God
2. Know, love and honor One another
3. Live the great commission

Short Version:

- Love God
Love one another
Live the mission

Our unity: John 17:22 "And the glory which Thou hast given Me I have given to them; that they may be one, just as We are one;

Our love: John 13:34 "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you..."

HOW TO know, love and honor one another:

1. Know, love and honor Jesus.

2. Befriend other sinful, confused, irritating, opinionated Christians as Jesus has befriended me

a. Don't judge other sinful, confused, irritating, opinionated Christians

Romans 14:1 Now accept the one who is weak in faith, *but* not for *the purpose of* passing judgment on his opinions...

b. Live with Jesus-focused conviction and respect other sinful, confused, irritating, opinionated Christians living with different Jesus- focused convictions

⁵ One man regards one day above another, another regards every day *alike*. Let each man be fully convinced in his own mind.

c. Work for the welfare and edification of other sinful, confused, irritating, opinionated Christians

Romans 15:1 Now we who are strong ought to bear the weaknesses of those without strength and not *just* please ourselves.

² Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to his edification.

Ephesians 4:11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers,

¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;

¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fulness of Christ.

¹⁴ As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;

¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all *aspects* into Him, who is the head, *even* Christ,

¹⁶ from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by that which every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love.

Ephesians 4:29 Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a *word* as is good for edification according to the need *of the moment*, that it may give grace to those who hear.

Hebrews 3:12 Take care, brethren, lest there should be in any one of you an evil, unbelieving heart, in falling away from the living God.

¹³ But encourage one another day after day, as long as it is *still* called "Today,"

" lest any one of you be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

¹⁴ For we have become partakers of Christ, if we hold fast the beginning of our assurance firm until the end;

Hebrews 10:24 and let us consider how to stimulate one another

to love and good deeds,

²⁵ not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging *one another*; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.

²⁶ For if we go on sinning willfully after receiving the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue...

Colossians 4:6 Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned, *as it were*, with salt, so that you may know how you should respond to each person.

1 Peter 3:8 To sum up, let all be harmonious, sympathetic, brotherly, kindhearted, and humble in spirit;

⁹ not returning evil for evil, or insult for insult, but giving a blessing instead; for you were called for the very purpose that you might inherit a blessing.

1 Peter 4:8 Above all, keep fervent in your love for one another, because love covers a multitude of sins.

Matthew 18:14 "Thus it is not *the* will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones perish.

¹⁵ "And if your brother sins, go and reprove him in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.

¹⁶ "But if he does not listen *to you*, take one or two more with you, so that by the mouth of two or three witnesses every fact may be confirmed.

¹⁷ "And if he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax-gatherer.

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, even if a man is caught in any trespass, you who are spiritual, restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness; *each one* looking to yourself, lest you too be tempted.

² Bear one another's burdens, and thus fulfill the law of Christ.

Romans 15:3 For even Christ did not please Himself; but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached Thee fell upon Me."

⁴ For whatever was written in earlier times was written for our instruction, that through perseverance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

⁵ Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus;

goal

⁶ that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

summary

⁷ Wherefore, accept one another, just as Christ also accepted us to the glory of God.

The Lord's Supper; our celebration of unity in Christ

1 Corinthians 11:17 But in giving this instruction, I do not praise you, because you come together not for the better but for the worse.

¹⁸ For, in the first place, when you come together as a church, I hear that divisions exist among you; and in part, I believe it.

¹⁹ For there must also be factions among you, in order that those who are approved may have become evident among you.

²⁰ Therefore when you meet together, it is not to eat the Lord's Supper,

²¹ for in your eating each one takes his own supper first; and one is hungry and another is drunk.

²² What! Do you not have houses in which to eat and drink? Or do you despise the church of God, and shame those who have nothing? What shall I say to you? Shall I praise you? In this I will not praise you.

²³ For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread;

²⁴ and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

²⁵ In the same way *He took* the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me."

²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

²⁷ Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner, shall be guilty of the body and the blood of the Lord.

²⁸ But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup.

- ²⁹ For he who eats and drinks, eats and drinks judgment to himself, if he does not judge the body rightly.
- ³⁰ For this reason many among you are weak and sick, and a number sleep.
- ³¹ But if we judged ourselves rightly, we should not be judged.
- ³² But when we are judged, we are disciplined by the Lord in order that we may not be condemned along with the world.
- ³³ So then, my brethren, when you come together to eat, wait for one another.
- ³⁴ If anyone is hungry, let him eat at home, so that you may not come together for judgment. And the remaining matters I shall arrange when I come.

All Scripture: NASV