

Thursday, August 27, 2026

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Essential Truth: *Our shared allegiance to one Lord is stronger than the differences that strain us.*

Scripture: Ephesians 4:4-6

⁴ There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Observations:

- The Holy Spirit works through the body (us) for God's purpose
- We are called to hope and put our hope in the One who redeems us
- We are one in Christ and when we focus on Him and His plan, we go the same direction together
- Though individuals, God works through all of us to accomplish His purpose
- God is our authority and He works in us together and He lives in us.

Application:

As you think about unity and being one in Christ, it's easier said than done. Often times, our flesh and our ways of thinking can lead to conflict, feelings of discouragement, and hardship. We can get discouraged as our relationships with others get hard through misunderstandings or unintentional acts of hurt. All of this is meant to take our eyes off of Jesus. As we put the focus back on Jesus- "one Lord, one faith, one baptism..." when we choose to view His words and submit to Him, our sinful flesh begins to die and our life with Christ and the love He gives us overcomes all fear and division.

Being unified with the body of Christ looks like following Jesus even above our own way of thinking. It looks like following Him as the authority with humility of considering others as better than ourselves and simply being willing to do as Jesus says and asks us to do.

So what is Jesus asking you to do to put your focus back on him? How are you supposed to yield to others? How can you see the body and recognize God's heart for unity in purpose?

Prayer: *Lord help me to follow you as Lord of my life. Help me to yield to you and submit to Your authority. Help me to see my brothers and sisters as members of your body and part of your purpose. Help us to focus on you and fill us with love that may overflow with love and grace for each other. Amen.*

