



The Christian CommUNITY

GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST

Evening Sermon by Ray Reynolds

(August 19, 2012)

Text: Ephesians 4:1-6

Introduction: In this section of his letter to the Ephesians, Paul identifies the basic principles of unity. We need to analyze every word, every phrase, and every thought to achieve unity today in the Lord's church. How can we do that? What will we learn? Let's study together

Discussion:

I. We Must Have The Right Calling For Unity (v.1)

Our calling is a source of pride (**II Peter 1:10, Galatians 6:11-15**).

Our calling is a source of pleasure (**Psalms 133:1-3**).

Our calling is a reminder of our position (**Philippians 2:1-2**).

II. We Must Have The Right Motive For Unity (v.2)

Unity is a personal choice (**Galatians 5:22-23**).

Unity is prayer-driven (**John 17:1ff**).

Unity is praiseworthy (**Philippians 1:3-11, Ephesians 4:3-13**).

III. We Must Have The Right Spirit For Unity (v.3)

Unity is peaceful (**Philippians 4:7, Matthew 18:15-18**).

Unity is practical (**I Corinthians 1:10, Amos 3:3**).

Unity is painful (**Romans 12:9-16, Galatians 6:1-2**).

IV. We Must Have The Right Foundation For Unity (vs.4-6)

Unity is a power issue (**Genesis 1:1**).

Unity is a preservation issue (**Jude 3**).

Unity is a process that requires patience (**I Corinthians 1:10**).

Conclusion: We need to be seeking unity in Christ and with Christ's church. Are you helping or hindering the work of the Lord? Let's get back to the basics of unity! Are you a part of the Christian commUNITY?

WORD OF THE DAY = "UNITY"