



***“Don’t leave your first love!” (Revelation 2:4)***

## **A Study of the Book of Ephesians**

**Lesson Seven = THE UNITY IN CHRIST (Ephesians 4:1-16)**

*Sunday Morning Message by Ray Reynolds (June 22, 2014)*

**GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST**

***Live event via YouVersion Bible app***

**Introduction:** In **Revelation 2:1-7** we read a letter from Jesus to the church at Ephesus. In that letter, Jesus condemns the Ephesians because they left their first love. On Sunday mornings we are noticing the words of Paul in the letter he wrote Ephesians, several years before that condemnation by Christ. If they had listened to the apostle Paul they would have avoided that terrible fate. In our time together today, we are going to consider the unity we have in Christ. Our nation was founded with an ideal of unity (*E Pluribus Unum*). The church must decide if it wishes to be a spiritual nation under God. Will we follow God’s vision for this new society, this new Kingdom, the church of Jesus Christ? Let’s see His vision and study together....

**Discussion:**

***I. The Reason for Our Unity (Ephesians 4:1-6)***

- A. We are called by the same Lord.
- B. We are bound by the same love.
- C. We are indwelt by the same Spirit.
- D. We are added to the same body.
- E. We are filled with the same eternal hope.
- F. We are dedicated to the same God.
- G. We are motivated by the same faith.
- H. We are saved by the same baptism.
- I. We are committed to the same cause.
- J. We are adopted by the same Heavenly Father (brothers and sisters).
- K. We are created for the same reason.

***II. The Root of Our Unity (Ephesians 4:7-11)***

- A. God’s Matchless Grace
- B. God’s Marvelous Gifts
- C. God’s Magnificent Goal

***III. The Resolve for Our Unity (Ephesians 4:12-14)***

- A. The Lord is Maturing His People
- B. The Lord is Motivating His People
- C. The Lord is Moving in His People

***IV. The Result of Our Unity (Ephesians 4:15-16)***

- A. The Body of Christ Will Be Profitable
- B. The Body of Christ Will Be Powerful
- C. The Body of Christ Will Be Productive

**Conclusion:** As our nation was once focused on “*E Pluribus Enum*” (*out of many, one*). What about God’s spiritual nation? We are one! And we must always be one! Do you have unity with your brothers and sisters in Christ? Are you committed to working and serving in the kingdom of God? If you are not a part of the body of Christ, are you seeking the Lord? Are you ready to obey the good news of Jesus Christ? Are you ready to be covered by His blood in baptism? Are you ready to be filled with his Holy Spirit? Are you ready to walk with Jesus every day of your life? Are you ready to surrender to His will? The Lord wants to be One with you! Do you want to be one with Him?