



MESSAGE: RANDY WHITE

MUSIC: RITA BAIRD

DATE: AUGUST 20, 2023

**One for All & All for One
What's so important about our unity?
Ephesians 4:1-6**

To maintain the unity of the Spirit, we need to understand its importance, practice the qualities that maintain it, and be diligent to keep it.

1. To maintain the unity of the Spirit, we need to understand its _____.

I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called. (v. 1)

- a. Paul suffered for it. (Ephesians 3:1, Acts 21:27-30, Ephesians 3:8-11)
- b. Jesus prayed for it. (John 17:21)

2. To maintain the unity of the Spirit, we need to have _____.

With all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love. (v. 2)

- a. Humility
- b. Gentleness
- c. Patience
- d. Bearing with one another in love

3. To maintain the unity of the Spirit we need to _____ make every effort to preserve it.

Eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (v. 3)

- a. We are to be careful and persistent to maintain unity.
- b. We are to live at peace with each other.

"In essentials, unity, in doubtful questions, liberty. In all things, charity."

"There is enough of the flesh in every one of us to wreck any local church or any other work of God."

4. Rather than magnifying differences, we should think of the seven positive realities which form the basis of true Christian unity.

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

Reflection/Discussion

1. What are the challenges of "maintaining the unity of the Spirit" for you?
2. What challenges do we have at VBC?
3. What character qualities in your life are you encouraged with? Are there any listed in verse 2 that you need to grow in?
4. Please commit to praying for the Elders in leading VBC, especially through this challenging time. Praying as a church family we will be diligent to maintain the unity of the Spirit.

SONGS

"HOW DEEP THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US"

"GOD IS FOR US"

"GREAT ARE YOU LORD"

"BUILD MY LIFE"

Altamont Music Pastor: Shawn Hoelsch (shawn@vbc.online)

Behold Podcast: vbc.online/behold

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 27,448.74

WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,985.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$ 1,095,054.97

Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$ 1,220,505.00

ALTAMONT CAMPUS EXPANSION FUND:
(Last Entry 08/17) \$ 88,676.66

GET ON THE VBC FAMILY ROSTER!



Communication & Giving: Envelopes for financial gifts, prayer requests, & communication to our church leadership are in the seatback pockets. Please deposit the envelopes in the offering boxes by the exit doors. Thank you!