

SERMON NOTES

“United We Stand – Divided We Fall”

July 26, 2020 – AM Sermon

Text Ephesians 4:1-3

INTRODUCTION – Quarrels are a part of life.

I want to speak today about a subject that God **desires for** His people.
God **demands from** His people.

- It is one thing that **Satan** works day and night to undo.
- It is something Jesus **prayed for** just before He went to the Cross.
- It is the 1 thing that the Bible says will **convince people** that
→ the Church has something the world does not.

IT IS UNITY

I. THE TARGET OF DIVISION – The Church

Ephesians 6:12 – “For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”

1 Corinthians 1:10 – “Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and **that there be no divisions among you**; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.”

2 Corinthians 13:11 – “Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, **be of one mind**, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.”

Philippians 1:27 – “Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind **striving together** for the faith of the gospel;”

1 Peter 3:8 – “Finally, be ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:”

John 17:23 – “I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.”

Ephesians 4:3 – “Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”

“I have never known the Spirit of God to work where the Lord’s people were divided.”
D.L. Moody

II. THE TOOLS OF DIVISION – The Tongue

Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-6

What does Satan use **in us** to cause division in **the Church**?

A. TURMOIL SIMMERS WITHIN

Paul speaks of several tools for division.

1. Envy

2. Strife

3. Division

B. TONGUE SPEAKS OUT

* Did you know that one of the **greatest sins** that God mentions
= **Gossip**

III. THE TRIUMPH OF DIVISION – The Holy Spirit

Ephesians 4:29-30 – “Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.”

Unity is the first thing that will **convince** people that the church has something that the **world** does not have.

Psalms 133:1-2 – “Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like the precious ointment upon the head, that ran down upon the beard, even Aaron’s beard: that went down to the skirts of his garments;”

APPLICATION GUIDE

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Read Ephesians 4:1-3

INTRODUCTION – Quarrels are a part of life.

1. Why do people have quarrels in life?
2. What typically results between people because of quarrels?

I. THE TARGET OF DIVISION – The Church

Read the following verses and discuss together what each one means in relation to unity in the church.

- Ephesians 6:12** _____
- 1 Corinthians 1:10** _____
- 2 Corinthians 13:11** _____
- Philippians 1:27** _____
- 1 Peter 3:8** _____
- John 17:23** _____
- Ephesians 4:3** _____

II. THE TOOLS OF DIVISION – The Tongue

Read 1 Corinthians 3:1-6

How does Satan use the following “tools” to cause problems in the Church? In your home?

1. Envy _____
2. Strife _____
3. Division _____
4. Tongue _____

III. THE TRIUMPH OF DIVISION – The Holy Spirit

According to *Ephesians 4:29-30*, what grieves the Holy Spirit and why?

What does *Psalm 133:1-2* say is good and why?

How powerful is unity for a church? A family?

Conclusion

What should you do if there is any division between you and another person?

How can you use social media to promote unity rather than division?

What can you do as a family to promote unity in the home?

Why is it important for you to live in unity with your spouse, family, church family, etc.?

What are the benefits of such unity?