

**Series: You Asked For It!**

**Title: Peace & Unity**

**Text:** (Romans 14:19)

God commands unity within the church and the bible calls us to have biblical fellowship.

What does true biblical fellowship look like?

How can we practically seek this in our church/community with one another?

How can we grow in intimacy/deeper in our relationships as brothers and sisters?

**Being a Church member is like a Marriage:** (Eph 5:25, 28, 33)

(I Cor 13:4-7)

(1 Cor 12:12-13)

- UNITY IS A MATTER OF LORDSHIP to Christ: (Romans 14:9)
  - It is not a matter of diets: (Rom 14:1-3)
  - It is not a matter of days: (Rom 14:5)
    - Keep thee Main thing the Main thing: (Rom 14:1)

**Race, Culture, & Traditions are to be left outside:**

(Eph 4:3) *Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

- We are to Receive Each Other: (Rom 15:7)

**A. Community ~ Common-Unity.**

1. God wants Unity **in** each of His churches.

2. God wants the membership of each of His churches to be bonded together in Peace;

This is accomplished By Oneness in the Holy Spirit.

This is accomplished By Unity around the Word of God. (1 Cor 1:10)

**These are the Common Unities of the Church Family.**

- **Reasons we should receive one another:**  
No Preferential treatment: Rank, Race, Traditions, Wealth
  - Their Salvation is from God: (Rom 14:3)
  - Their Service is to God: (Rom 14:4)
  - Their Security is of God: (Rom 14:4)
  - His Stewardship is in God: (Rom 14:10-12)

- **UNITY IS A MATTER OF LIBERTY:** (Rom 14:17)
  - Liberty Allows for Diversity: (1 Cor 12:14-20)

(1 Cor 12:17) We are dependent upon one another.

- Liberty has its Rights:
  - Diversity is to be Expected
  - Liberty doesn't Trump Scriptural Unity
  - (Rom 14:14) God will lead you to apply the scriptures
  - (Rom 14:22) Liberty but not so you can use it to sin.
- Liberty has its Responsibility: (Rom 14:16-17)
  - Your Testimony Speaks Loudly: (Rom 14:7)
  - Your Testimony will lead others to or from the Bible: (Rom 14:8)
  - Your Testimony is still to be lived in Righteousness. (Rom 14:9)

- **UNITY IS A MATTER OF LOVE:** (Romans 14:15)

All Souls Matter, All the Time: (1 Cor 12:21-23)

- Things Love Will do in a Church:
  - It will keep your brother from Stumbling: (Rom 14:13, 21)
  - It will keep your brother from Sorrow: (Rom 14:15)
  - It will keep your brother from Separating: (Rom 14:19)
  - It will keep your brother from Suspicion: (Rom 14:20)

- **UNITY IS A MATTER OF LOYALTY:** (Rom 15:1-7)

- (Vs1) Long Suffering:
  - Conscience of the Value of your Church Family: (1 Cor 12:24-25)
- (Vs 2) Edification:
  - Commitment to the Health of Your Church Family: (1 Cor 12:26-27)

If one member grows, it strengthens the entire body.

- (Vs 3-4) Christ Our Example
- (Vs 5) Likemindedness
- (Vs 6) Resulting in Unity of Worship
- (Vs 7) Resulting in Unity of the Body
  - Cooperation: (Eph 4:11-16)