



**Grace Life Church**  
*of Dallas*

The doctrines of grace, the life of the Spirit, to the glory of God

# **Philippians 2:1-8**

## **Unity in the Church Part 1**

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# Philippians 2:1-8

*So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, 2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves.*

# Philippians 2:1-8

*4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

# Seriousness of Unity

**Romans 12:16** Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight

**Romans 15:5-7** May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, 6 that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 7 Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

# Seriousness of Unity

**1 Corinthians 1:10-11** I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. 11For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers.

**2 Corinthians 13:11** Finally, brothers, rejoice. Aim for restoration, comfort one another, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you.

# Seriousness of Unity

**Ephesians 4:1** I therefore a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call.

## Jesus on unity

**John 17:21-23** That they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. 22The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, 23I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

*So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind*

- Our unity is supernatural (new birth)
- Jesus prays concerning it, Paul warns concerning it, and we (church) are called to maintain it, God is glorified in it

Paul Encourages and Motivates us in unity:

*So if there is any encouragement in Christ...be unified*

- *Encouragement-paraklēsis*-coming along side for comfort and consolation, refreshment
- **John 14:16** *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper (paraklētōs), to be with you forever*

*So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind*

**John 14:26** But the **Helper**, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, He will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

**2 Corinthians 1:3-4** Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all **comfort**, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the **comfort** with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

**Hebrews 12:5** And have you forgotten the **exhortation** that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him.

Because of all that God has encouraged us in Christ, should we not glorify Him and be of one mind?



*So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind*

*So if there is any comfort from love...be of the same mind (unified)*

- Comfort from love-(Comfort-consoling) from love
- **Ephesians 1:4-5** *even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will*
- **Romans 5:8** *but God shows His love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.*
- **Romans 8:39** *nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.*
- **1 John 3:1** *See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.*

*So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind*

*any participation in the Spirit...be of the same mind*

**Ezekiel 36:27** *And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.*

**1 Corinthians 6:19** *Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God?*

**1 Corinthians 12:13** *For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.*

**Galatians 5:22-23** *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.*

*So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind*

*any affection and sympathy...be of the same mind*

- Because of the deep hearted love and compassion (pity) God shows us, strive for unity
- God does not begrudgingly embrace you in Jesus (but rather joyfully as sons)
- He knows who we are **Psalm 103:14** *For he knows our frame; he remembers that we are dust.*
- **Romans 8:34** *Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.*

**Knowing God is deeply loving & compassionate towards us,  
how can we respond any other way to His body**

*So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, complete my joy by being of the same mind*

Knowing Jesus' prayer "that we be one" for God's glory, how does the response of discord look in the face of encouragement, comfort in love, fellowship in the Spirit, deep love and sympathy?

Paul is giving us proper perspective regarding each other by reminding us who God is and what He has done

Paul is not guiltting us towards unity, but reminding us of all of God's grace and love towards us in Christ Jesus, and therefore encouraging/motivating us to respond in a manner worthy (unity)

Paul is encouraging gospel centered relationships