

# The Holy Spirit Unites Us – Ephesians 4:1-7

September 10, 2017

**What impacted you the most from this week's sermon?**

READ THE PASSAGE:

**Read Ephesians 4:1-7. What does the Apostle Paul list as the necessary ingredients for unity in the Spirit? Which of these do you find most challenging and why?**

**Paul also lists several aspects of Christian faith that should serve to unite us – they're listed below. Define each one and describe why it's important for bringing us together.**

- One body
- One Spirit
- One hope
- One Lord
- One faith
- One baptism
- One God and Father of all

IN OTHER SCRIPTURES

**As Jesus drew near to the end of His earthly ministry, He prayed for His disciples and all who would believe in Him in the future, including us. Read part of His prayer in John 17:20-23. Why does Jesus want us to live in unity with one another?**

**How do the following passages describe unity among God's people?**

- 2 Chronicles 30:12
- Psalm 133:1-3
- Romans 15:5-7
- Colossians 3:11-14

**What do these Scriptures say can happen when we don't have unity?**

- Matthew 12:25
- 1 Corinthians 1:10-13
- Galatians 5:15

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## MAKING IT MATTER

Unity doesn't come easy, does it? Our human nature wants to draw lines and distinctions, putting labels on each other and creating "us" and "them" categories. Perhaps that's why we need the power of the Spirit inside us to bring us together, and why believers who love each other make such an effective witness to an unbelieving world. We need Him because it's so unnatural for us to live in unity on our own.

**What are some issues that tend to divide believers today? When have you experienced this?**

**The Apostle Paul goes to great lengths in Romans 14-15 to encourage believers to show grace to one another even over issues that might be considered sacred and deal with our individual convictions. How can we live in unity even when we disagree on important matters?**

**Who do you have the most difficult time living in unity with? No need to name names – what are the characteristics of a person or a group of people where unity seems impossible for you? What can you do to obey God's commands to live in unity even with these people?**