1. Why is Christian unity so important? (Covered in The Unity of the Church - Part 1)

2. What is biblical Christian unity? (Covered in The Unity of the Church – Part 1)

3. For biblical Christian unity to be a witness to the world, we must work at preserving and perfecting it.

**Ephesians 4:1-6 (ESV)**  
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,  
2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one  
   another in love,  
3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.  
4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—  
5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

**1 Corinthians 12:13 (ESV)** 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.

**Ephesians 4:11-13 (ESV)**  
11 And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and  
   teachers,  
12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,  
13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the  
   measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

This is practical unity that comes about as we grow to maturity by coming to know Jesus Christ in a deeper way.

**How do we preserve the unity of the Spirit and perfect the unity of the faith?**

- We preserve and perfect unity by seeking harmonious relationships with all believers.

  **Ephesians 4:1-2 (ESV)**  
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,  
2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing  
   with one another in love,

  **Colossians 3:12-14 (ESV)**  
12 Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate  
   hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience,  
13 bearing with one another and, if one has a  
   complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must  
   forgive.  
14 And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

- We preserve and perfect unity by growing in understanding biblical truth so that we know Christ  
   more deeply.

  **Ephesians 4:13 (ESV)** until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of  
   God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

- We preserve and perfect unity by displaying racial, cultural, and social unity and diversity.
Galatians 3:28-29 (ESV)  

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.

- We preserve and perfect unity by the acceptance and appreciation of one another’s different gifts.

1 Corinthians 12:21 (ESV)  

The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.”

- We preserve and perfect unity by accepting all whom Christ has accepted, while yet holding to truths that we believe are important for growth in Christ.

- We preserve and perfect unity by rejoicing when other gospel-preaching, Bible-believing, Christ-exalting churches do well.

- We preserve and perfect unity by holding firmly to essential biblical truth while guarding ourselves against the pride of “being right” on every minor issue.

1 Corinthians 4:6-7 (ESV)  

6 I have applied all these things to myself and Apollos for your benefit, brothers, that you may learn by us not to go beyond what is written, that none of you may be puffed up in favor of one against another. 7 For who sees anything different in you? What do you have that you did not receive? If then you received it, why do you boast as if you did not receive it?