



encouraged

The Encouragement of a Unified Church

Romans 15:5-7

Dr. Mike Fabarez • Focal Point Radio Ministries • January 14 & 15, 2012 • Book of Romans week 93 • CD 12-02

5 *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.*
(ESV)

1. Unity _____ (vv.5-7)

2. Know _____ (vv.5b-6)

3. Aim _____ (v.7)

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others.

1. Read **Philippians 2:1-2**. Describe in your own words some of the strength and encouragement that can be derived from being a part of a fellowship of Christians who are truly unified in pursuing and serving Jesus Christ.
2. Read **Philippians 2:3-4**. While many assume a kind of idyllic unity should be easy and natural for Christians, what in Philippians 2:3-4 indicates that this will be a very difficult and at times an elusive goal?
3. Read **John 17:20-23**. Remembering that Paul's exhortation in Romans 15:5-7 is couched in a prayer, and that Christ is praying for our unity here in John 17, we should be impressed that prayer is an indispensable key to achieving the kind of unity the Bible is commanding. What will you do to remind yourself to regularly pray for the kind of biblical unity we studied this weekend?
4. Read **1 Corinthians 5:11** and **Titus 3:10**. How would you respond to someone who insists that as long as a person professes his love for Christ we should always seek to be unified with that person?
5. Read **Ephesians 4:1-3**. What aspect of these three verses provides the biggest challenge for you?

The CBC Bible Reading Schedule for this Week:

Go to ESV.org (Reading Plans: Though the Bible) for schedule prompts.

January 15th

Gen.36-37 & Mt.12:1-21

January 16th

Gen.38-40 & Mt.12:22-50

January 17th

Gen.41 & Mt.13:1-32

January 18th

Gen.42-43 & Mt.13:33-58

January 19th

Gen.44-45 & Mt.14:1-21

January 20th

Gen.46-48 & Mt.14:22-36

January 21st

Gen.49-50 & Mt.15:1-20

January 22nd

Ex.1-3 & Mt.15:21-39

For MP3 sermons go to FPR.info. The following are other available sermons related to today's subject matter.

CD # 0911 – ***Real Love: Its Biblical Dimensions***
CD # 0220 – ***Attacking the Problems that Attack Our Unity***
CD # 0221 – ***Three Key Perspectives That Will Keep Us Together***
CD # 1105 – ***Sincerely Loving God's People***
CD # 1108–1111 – ***Enemies, Grace & Revenge*** (a four-part series)

Here are some books which may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Mike cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Adams, Jay. ***From Forgiveness to Forgiving***. Calvary Press, 1997.
Allender, Dan and Tremper Longman. ***Bold Love***. Reprint. NavPress, 1993.
Bunyan, John. ***All Loves Excelling***. Banner of Truth, 1998.
Carson, D. A. ***Love in Hard Places***. Crossway Books, 2002.
Kroll, Woodrow. ***Struggling with Selfishness: Choosing to Look Past Yourself***. Back to the Bible, 1996.
Lloyd-Jones, D. Martyn. ***Ephesians 4:1-16. An Exposition on Christian Unity***. Baker Books, 1998.
Moffatt, James. ***Love in the New Testament***. Smith Publishing, 1930.
Morris, Leon. ***Testaments of Love: A Study of Love in the Bible***. Eerdmans, 1981.
Pritchard, Ray. ***The Healing Power of Forgiveness***. Harvest House, 2005.
Ryken, Philip Graham, ed. ***The Communion of the Saints: Living in Fellowship with the People of God***. P & R, 2001.
Sande, Ken and Kevin Johnson. ***Resolving Everyday Conflict***. Baker Books, 2011.
Sande, Ken. ***The Peacemaker: A Biblical Guide to Resolving Personal Conflicts***. Baker Books, 1997.
Spicq, Ceslas. ***Agape in the New Testament***. Herder, 1963.
Swindoll, Charles. ***Improving Your Serve: The Art of Unselfish Living***. Reprint. Word, 2002.