> I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be perfectly united in mind and thought.
> *— 1 Corinthians 1:10*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: community, Blameless, family, thoughts, transformation

Interpretation:
In *1 Corinthians 1:10, the Apostle Paul* makes a plea to his fellow believers, calling them to unity in the name *of Jesus Christ*. He addresses them as *"brothers,"* recognizing them as members of one family formed through faith.

This petition is a reminder of the importance of unity in the lives of believers in the Lord. The Bible as a whole tells us about the importance of unity in the church as a value that we must maintain. This means that although we may have personal, ideological, or other differences, it is vital that we remain united in Christ.

Divisions, an obstacle to unity in the church

The Apostle Paul also mentions a problem that unfortunately remains common among Christians: divisions. Lack of unity among brothers can arise for many reasons, such as differences in biblical interpretation, personality conflicts, or even personal ambitions.

These divisions can be destructive to both the church and the individual. On the one hand, the church loses its power and its witness when believers are not united. On the other hand, those who are involved in divisions can face emotional, spiritual, and even physical difficulties.

The importance of unity in the church

Unity is fundamental to the life of the church because it is how God's love is shown to the world. In *the Gospel of John, Jesus* said, *"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:35)*. This love is not a superficial feeling, but an attitude that is demonstrated in how we treat others, especially those who are different from us.

Unity in the church is a way to show the world that Jesus is Lord and that His truth is to be followed. In addition, unity is also a source of strength for members of the congregation during times of weakness. When we are united, we can help each other in times of need and be a spiritual support for others.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ.
>
> *— 1 Corinthians 12:12*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: community, body, Church, Jesus

Interpretation:
The book of 1 Corinthians in the New Testament was written by *the Apostle Paul*, who was writing to the church in Corinth to correct doctrinal and practical deviations. He seeks to impress upon the people the importance of *the Body of Christ* and how each member plays an important role in unity and spiritual growth.

1 Corinthians 12:12 compares the human body to the church, and states that just as our body has many members, yet they all form one body, so Christ is one with His church. Paul often used analogies to make his teaching clearer, and this analogy is a very appropriate example to teach us about unity in the church.

The importance of unity in the church

This verse teaches the importance of unity in the church because when church members work together and support each other, they can better fulfill God's purpose. It is important to note that in a church, each member is important and necessary for the growth and well-being of the church.

The church should be a place where diversity is welcomed, where each member cares for others and works together in harmony and love. If we forget that we are all equal in Christ, we miss the blessing of having a true community that supports and encourages us in our spiritual lives.

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from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.
> *— 1 Corinthians 12:13*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: community, baptism, body, Church, slavery, Spirit

Interpretation:
In 1 Corinthians, *the apostle Paul* teaches about the importance of *the Holy Spirit* in the lives of believers and the unity that results in the church as a result of the Spirit's work. In chapter 12, Paul teaches that although there are many different spiritual gifts, they all come from the same Spirit who unites believers into one body.

However, one of the key aspects of the Spirit's work that Paul emphasizes in this chapter is the baptism of the Holy Spirit. In verse 13, Paul states that *"For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body."* The baptism of the Holy Spirit is the promise Jesus made to His followers before His ascension to heaven: *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you" (Acts 1:8)*.

Baptized into one body

The image of Spirit baptism as the unification of believers into one body is central to Paul's teaching about the Spirit's work in the church. He uses the analogy of the human body to show that each member has a distinct but vital function for the well-being of the body.

Similarly, each believer has a unique role in the church, but all are equally important to the spiritual well-being of *the Body of Christ*. Paul emphasizes our *unity in Christ* and the *"diversity of spiritual gifts" (1 Corinthians 12:4)*.

Inclusion in the Kingdom of God

1 Corinthians 12:13 also emphasizes that all people, regardless of their background, status, or history, are included in *the Kingdom of God* through the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Paul specifically mentions Jews and Greeks, slaves and free people, to show that there are no barriers in the Kingdom of God.

The baptism of the Spirit does not define us by our differences, but unites us as members of the Body of Christ. Regardless of our race, gender, age, or economic status, the Holy Spirit unites us into a

common spiritual unity in Christ.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Don’t you know that you yourselves are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in your midst?
> *— 1 Corinthians 3:16*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: community, Church, Holiness, Holy Spirit, Spirit

Interpretation:
1 Corinthians 3:16 reminds us that we are the temple of God and that His Spirit lives within us. This means that our body is a sacred place, a place where God can express Himself and where we can connect with His divine presence. As temples of God, we are to take care of our bodies and minds, avoiding all negative influences so that we can be in harmony with His Spirit.

This verse also reminds us that God has given us a body and mind that we are responsible for caring for and protecting. We are to treat our bodies with the same respect as a temple, keeping them clean, healthy, and strong. If we take these tips into account, we will live in harmony with the will of God and His presence within us.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy that person; for God’s temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.
> *— 1 Corinthians 3:17*

Book: New Testament / 1 Corinthians
Topics: community, Church, Holiness, protection

Interpretation:
1 Corinthians 3:17 tells us that no man has the right to destroy the temple of God, and if he does, God will punish him. This verse makes us think about the meaning of *“the temple of God”* and how we can apply this verse to our lives.

What does “the temple of God” mean?

In the biblical context, *“the temple of God”* means a sacred place where God dwells. However, in this verse, *the Apostle Paul* tells us that we are the temple of God. This means that every person is a sacred place where God dwells. People are worthy of respect and care because we are God’s creation.

How can we apply this verse to our lives?

This verse reminds us that we must respect our own bodies and the dignity of every person. When we treat others with love, respect, and care, we acknowledge the presence of God in them. If someone harms our body or if we witness harm to others, it is important to remember that God is in us and in them.

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> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.
> *— 1 John 1:7*

Book: New Testament / 1 John
Topics: community, blood, Light, purification, sacrifice

Interpretation:
1 John 1:7 focuses on the central concept of Christianity: the cleansing of sins through the blood *of Jesus Christ*. The author of this passage points out that if we walk in the light as *Jesus* does, we can fellowship with other believers, and the blood *of Christ* will cleanse us from our sins.

What does it mean to “walk in the light”?

Walking in the light means living in truth and in obedience to God's commands. It means having an open mind and heart to receive divine wisdom and to act in accordance with its principles. Walking in the light means we act justly and lovingly toward others, always striving for humility and honesty in our relationships with God and others.

Fellowship and love in community

The fellowship mentioned in this passage refers to more than just a personal relationship with God. It also refers to the importance of belonging to a community of believers who share the same beliefs and values. Fellowship with other believers in God's light allows us to grow in faith and receive love and support during difficult times.

This verse also calls us to consider the power of the blood of Jesus. The blood of Christ has the power to cleanse our hearts and purify us from all sin. No matter how dirty or unclean our thoughts or actions may be, the blood of Jesus is always available to cleanse us.

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> Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.
> *— 1 John 4:11*

Book: New Testament / 1 John
Topics: community, God, love

Interpretation:
The Bible speaks to us about love in many places and forms, but *1 John 4:11* in particular is a call to love one another. The author, *John*, emphasizes that if God has loved us in this way, we should follow His example and love one another.

The love of God

In the Gospel of John, we are reminded in several passages that God is love. From the very beginning of this Gospel, we are told of the importance of God's love in the creation and salvation of mankind.

In the New Testament, God presents himself as a loving Father who desires all of His children to come to Him. In *1 John 4:10*, the author reminds us that God first loved us and sent *His Son Jesus* to save us from our sins.

Love others as yourself

One of the most important commands in the Bible is to love others as ourselves. In *Mark 12:31*, *Jesus* tells us to love our neighbors as ourselves, and that there is no greater commandment than this.

Loving others means not only having a feeling of kindness, but also demonstrating it in concrete actions. We must be willing to help those in need, to forgive, and to give without expecting anything in return.

The importance of brotherly love

In the Christian life, brotherly love is fundamental. We cannot neglect the love we should have for our fellow believers. In *Hebrews 10:24-25*, we are called to support one another and to come together to promote love and good works.

Brotherly love is also important in our responsibility as servants of God. We must remember that we are not alone in our journey of faith and that together we can fulfill God's purposes on earth.

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> Finally, all of you, be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble.
> *— 1 Peter 3:8*

Book: New Testament / 1 Peter
Topics: community, compassion, humility, neighbor

Interpretation:
1 Peter 3:8 is a call for unity in the Christian community. The apostle *Peter* witnessed the persecution that the early church suffered and knew that unity was essential to its survival and growth. He also knew that unity was an important part of the identity of followers *of Jesus Christ*. In this verse, Peter offers a list of qualities that believers must have in order to live in unity.

The importance of unity

Unity is essential to the church because unity is the evidence *of Christ's love* for the world. *Jesus* said, *"By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:35)*. If

Christians cannot love one another and live in unity, how can they hope to demonstrate the love of Christ to a lost world? Furthermore, unity is also essential to the spiritual growth of the individual. The Christian community is called to help each member grow spiritually and mature. Unity and brotherly love are fundamental to this process. Only when Christians live in harmony can they strengthen one another and grow together in faith.

List of qualities

In this verse, Peter offers a list of qualities necessary for living in unity. They are: like-mindedness, compassion, love for one another, kindness, and gentleness.

Like-mindedness - This refers to the need to be of one mind, to think consistently, and to be united in the truth of the gospel. This means that Christians must be willing to put aside personal differences and focus on what unites them: *their love for Christ and their commitment to His word*.

Compassion - This refers to the ability to feel empathy and understanding for others. It is necessary to feel the pain and joy of others as if they were our own. This may be difficult for some, but it is essential for living in harmony.

Brotherly love - This love for other believers is crucial to unity. This love goes beyond superficial affection and extends to caring for and being responsible for one another.

Mercy - This refers to the need to forgive others when they make mistakes or lack unity. Mercy shown in the church helps to build healthier relationships and restore harmony in society.

Kindness - This means a positive attitude and a willingness to help others at any time and under any circumstances. Kindness helps others feel welcome and safe in society.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> I also want the women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, adorning themselves, not with elaborate hairstyles or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God.
>
> *— 1 Timothy 2:9-10*

Book: New Testament / 1 Timothy

Topics: community, beauty, clothing, goodness, materialism, worship

Interpretation:
This verse asks us to think about our appearance and how we should present it to the world. It can be interpreted in many ways, but in general it tells us that we should dress modestly and simply, avoiding ostentation and excess in our clothing. It is important to note that this does not mean that clothing should necessarily be plain or unattractive, but rather that it should be *appropriate, respectful, and elegant*.

In verse 10, Paul emphasizes that women should demonstrate their godliness through *good works*. It is important to note that Paul does not limit the importance of good works to women only, but rather that this practice should be demonstrated by all believers, regardless of their gender.

Godliness is a term that describes the attitude and behavior of a person living a godly and religious life. *In the Christian context, godliness focuses on worshiping God, honoring His word, and obeying His commands*.

Paul understands that true godliness is not just an outward appearance, but an active practice in our lives, demonstrated through good works. Good works are all those actions that we perform for the benefit of others, in love and service, and based on our principles and convictions. The practice of godliness without good works is meaningless and reveals a religion devoid of content, based on appearances and formalities. True godliness moves us to demonstrate God's love through our actions and behavior.

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> Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need.
> *— 1 Timothy 5:3*

Book: New Testament / 1 Timothy
Topics: community, neighbor, widows

Interpretation:
First *Timothy 5:3* calls us to honor true widows. But what does this expression mean? First of all, we must understand that the culture of that time was very different from our own. Women were forbidden from holding certain positions and inheriting property. Therefore, widows were one of the most

vulnerable in society.

When we are asked to *“honor”* these women, we mean the importance of caring for them, providing for their material and spiritual needs, and treating them with respect and love. In the context of the church, believers must take on this responsibility so that widows do not fall into poverty and despair.

Why is it important to honor widows?

Honoring widows is a sign of love and justice. It is easy to overlook those who do not have power and influence in society, but God calls us to be responsible for those who need our help. In addition, the Bible repeatedly mentions that God is the protector of widows and that He Himself cares for them. *Psalm 68:5* says, *“A father to the fatherless, a defender of widows, is God in his holy dwelling.”* So when we honor widows, we are acting in harmony with the heart of God.

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> They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.
>
> *— Acts 1:14*

Book: New Testament / Acts
Topics: community, Prayer

Interpretation:
Acts 1:14 paints an important picture: *Jesus’ disciples* and other followers were devoted together to prayer and supplication, waiting for the *Holy Spirit*. This text shows us how prayer can unite a group of people with a common goal.

Persistence in prayer

One of the most important lessons we can learn from *Acts 1:14* is persistence in prayer. Jesus’ disciples and followers did not meet together to pray just once, but they continued in prayer for many days.

This persistence shows us that prayer is an ongoing process. It is something we must do throughout our lives if we want to grow in the spiritual life.

Unity in prayer

Acts 1:14 also shows us the importance of unity in prayer. Jesus' disciples and followers did not pray alone, each on their own, but they met together and prayed together.

This shows us that prayer is an activity that we should share with other believers. Group prayer can be very powerful and help us feel more united as a community.

The necessity of prayer

Acts 1:14 also shows us the necessity of prayer. The disciples and followers of Jesus believed that prayer was necessary to receive the Holy Spirit. Without prayer and supplication, they would not be able to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

This shows us that prayer is essential to our spiritual life. We cannot expect to grow in our faith or succeed in life without God's help, and prayer is a way to connect with Him.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was earnestly praying to God for him.
>
> — *Acts 12:5*

Book: New Testament / Acts
Topics: community, Church, dependence, neighbor, Prayer

Interpretation:
Acts 12:5 is a verse that introduces us to a key moment in the life of the *apostle Peter* within the *book of Acts*. Chapter 12 of the book begins with the account of the death of James at the hands of Herod, who had been captured by Peter and was now seeking revenge against the Christians.

At the height of the persecution, Peter was captured and imprisoned with the intention of being publicly executed after the Passover. But the church, aware of the situation, remained united in prayer and supplication for the apostle's release. It was then that a miracle occurred: *an angel of the Lord* released Peter from his chains and opened the prison doors, allowing him to escape.

The importance of prayer in difficult times

Acts 12:5 is a powerful testimony to the value and effectiveness of prayer in difficult times. The early church was a community whose members supported and cared for one another, and this was reflected in their ability to unite in prayer when one of them was in danger.

Prayer was a fundamental tool for Peter's deliverance from captivity, showing that when God's people pray in faith and unity, great things can be accomplished.

This passage not only tells us about the importance of prayer in times of crisis, but it also shows us that our faith must be put into action. Not only did the church pray for Peter's release, but they believed that God could do something extraordinary to save him.

Prayer is not only a way to ask God to intervene, but it is also a way to demonstrate our faith in His power and willingness to act in our lives.

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> They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.
>
> — *Acts 2:42*

Book: New Testament / Acts
Topics: community, bread, Church, obedience, Prayer

Interpretation:
Acts 2:42 tells us about the importance of persevering in the apostles' teaching. This means standing firm in the teaching of *God's Word* as delivered by the apostles. This is fundamental because it is the apostles' teaching that leads us to understand and live God's will for our lives.

Some of the apostles' teachings that we are to follow are love for our neighbor, humility, honesty, chastity, and faith in *Jesus Christ* as our *Savior*. These teachings enable us to live a full life in fellowship with God, our families, and our friends.

Fellowship with one another

The next aspect mentioned in *Acts 2:42* is fellowship with one another. Communion signifies the bond of love and friendship that exists between Christians. This fellowship is necessary because it allows us

to grow together in our love for God and to learn from one another.

Communion also allows us to support each other in prayer, in material and emotional support, and in many other aspects of life. When we come together, we can share our struggles, successes, and worries. And together, we can help each other find solutions and keep our faith strong.

Breaking bread

Breaking bread is another aspect mentioned in *Acts 2:42*. The term refers to the *Lord's Supper*, also known as *the Eucharist* or *Holy Supper*. The Lord's Supper is a constant reminder of Christ's death and resurrection and their importance for our salvation.

The Lord's Supper is an opportunity to come together as a community around the word of God. By sharing bread and wine, we remember the importance of Christ's sacrifice and renew our faith in Him. Moreover, the Lord's Supper unites us in an act of reverence and humility and encourages us to live according to the will of God.

Prayers

Finally, *Acts 2:42* mentions prayers. Prayers are fundamental to the Christian life because they are a way to communicate with God. Prayer allows us to thank God for His blessings, ask for His help in difficult times, and seek His guidance at all times.

Prayers are also a way for us to unite as a community around God. When we pray together, we can share our requests together and encourage each other to grow in faith and trust in God. Moreover, prayer allows us to sense God’s presence in our lives and helps us feel His grace and love.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.
>
> *— Acts 2:46-47*

Book: New Testament / Acts

Topics: community, bread, Church, food, praise, worship

Interpretation:
Acts 2:46-47 shows how first-century Christians lived in fellowship, sharing bread and *the Word of God* both in the temple and in their homes, praising God. These verses teach us that the unity and joy experienced in Christian community is the fruit of perseverance and mutual devotion.

The importance of christian fellowship

The gathering of Christians, both in the temple and in homes, is a foundational practice that strengthens faith, fellowship, and mutual love in the church. Temple gatherings worship God and hear His Word, while homes share bread and enjoy God's blessings in a more welcoming and familiar setting.

Christian communion is not just a practice, but a necessity, as the support and company of our sisters and brothers in faith help us grow spiritually and overcome together the adversities that may come our way.

The importance of praising God

The Bible teaches us that praising God is a way of worshiping Him and expressing our love, gratitude, and reverence. In *Acts 2:47*, we see how the early Christians praised God and how this resulted in the delight of the people and a great increase in the church.

Praise is not only a form of worship, but also a means of evangelism. When we praise God and live by His commandments, we show the world God's grace and love. This can be a powerful witness to those who have not yet met the Lord.

How can we praise God?

Some ways to praise God may include music, prayer, singing, reading the Bible, preaching, and serving others. Praise can also be a way of life, living according to God's commandments and always seeking to honor Him in everything we do.

How can this help us?

Praising God can help us maintain a good relationship with Him, grow spiritually, and find peace and satisfaction in our lives. When we praise God, we focus on Him and His greatness, which can help us leave our worries and problems behind. It can also unite us as a community and strengthen us as Christians.

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from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.
> — *Acts 4:32*

Book: New Testament / Acts
Topics: community, materialism

Interpretation:
Acts 4:32 mentions that *“All the believers were one in heart and mind.”* This means that the believers lived one life, felt and thought together, as if they were one body.

This unity of faith was reflected in the relationships between the members of the early church. They all lived together, prayed together, and shared everything they had as if it were everyone’s property, establishing full fellowship among themselves.

This fellowship extended to material things as well. That is, the believers were willing to share their possessions with others to meet the collective needs. The idea that *“No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own”* means that the members of the early church experienced a change of heart when they accepted *Christ* as their *Savior*.

Unity and unity

This passage reminds us of the importance of fellowship and unity in faith. It is noteworthy that one of the most striking aspects of the relationships of the early believers was their conviction in their faith, their solidarity, and their commitment to others. This sense of unity in faith should characterize our relationships with other believers today.

Our ability to share and help others, especially those who are part of our faith community, should be a reflection of Christ’s presence in our lives. *Communion* is a clear expression that we believe the same things, that we are striving for a common goal, and that we care for one another in the love of Christ.

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> And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.
> — *Colossians 3:14*

Book: New Testament / Colossians
Topics: community, Blameless, love

Interpretation:
Love is one of the fundamental principles of Christianity, and one of the most recurring themes in the Bible. The Apostle *Paul* reminds us in his letter to the Colossians of the importance of always putting on love, as it is the perfect bond that should unite all Christians.

What does it mean to put on love?

When Paul tells us to put on love, he means that we should make love a way of life. It is not just about having feelings of love for others, but also about showing that love through our actions. We should treat others with respect, empathy, and compassion, and always seek their well-being.

Why is love the perfect bond?

Love is the perfect bond because it unites all Christians, regardless of our differences. When we love others, we do not care about their background, race, gender, or culture. Love gives us the strength to forgive, understand, and help others, creating community and unity.

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> Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.
> — *Ephesians 4:3*

Book: New Testament / Ephesians
Topics: community, peace, Spirit

Interpretation:
Verse 3 of chapter 4 of Paul's letter to the Ephesians calls us to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Unity is a fundamental value in any group and is especially important in the church

because it is the physical representation of Christ on earth. Therefore, when the church is united, Christ is present. But how do we achieve the unity of the Spirit and why is it important?

Achieving the unity of the Spirit in the church is not an easy task, but it is possible through Christian love, which seeks unity in diversity. We must strive to maintain harmony in our relationships with others and be willing to forgive and be forgiven when we are offended. Moreover, we must remain humble and be willing to compromise on issues that are not fundamental to the faith without compromising it.

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> There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.
>
> *— Galatians 3:28*

Book: New Testament / Galatians
Topics: community, Jesus, slavery, understanding

Interpretation:
Galatians 3:28 is a very important verse in the Bible that speaks to us about equality *in Christ Jesus*.

Meaning of the verse

This verse speaks of equality in Christ and the removal of barriers that separate us as people. In Christ Jesus, we are all equal, whether we are Jews or Greeks, slaves or free, male or female. In fact, many scholars interpret this verse as stating that salvation is available to all people, regardless of race, social status, or gender. We are all equal before God, and we can all access God's grace and mercy *through faith in Jesus Christ*.

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> And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.
> — *Hebrews 10:24-25*

Book: New Testament / Hebrews
Topics: community, Church, encouragement, equipment, Second coming, end times

Interpretation:
In *Hebrews 10:24-25*, the writer encourages believers not to forsake meeting together, as some have become accustomed to, but to encourage one another, especially as the day *of Jesus'* return draws near. These verses emphasize the importance of joining together with other believers and working together in God's work.

Consideration for one another

These verses remind us of how we should care for others and always seek their welfare, helping them achieve their goals and objectives. Given the importance of caring for others in our lives, a natural question arises: How can I motivate others to love and do good deeds?

To do this, we must begin with an attitude of service and consideration for others. We must be a source of encouragement and strength by being involved in their lives and actively listening to them. This will allow us to become a source of inspiration and motivation, encouraging others to do what they love, helping them achieve their goals, and giving them words of wisdom and encouragement.

Keep meeting together

Those who make a habit of not meeting together are missing out on an important part of the Christian life. Community is crucial to our spiritual life and our relationship with God.

When we meet together, we can pray together, encourage and support one another, enjoy each other's company, and learn from the experiences and perspectives of other believers. Not meeting together is missing out on the opportunity to grow and develop together in our faith.

Exhort one another

In addition to meeting together to pray and worship God, community has another important purpose: *to encourage one another*. When we are surrounded by other believers, we have the opportunity to encourage one another, correct one another, and stand firm in our faith. This is an important part of our spiritual life, as we often need the encouragement and support of others to continue in our walk

with God.

The importance of community

Hebrews 10:24-25 highlights the importance of community and why it is so vital to our spiritual life. When we deviate from or neglect this practice, we not only miss the opportunity to grow and develop in our faith together, but we also miss the opportunity to support and encourage other believers in their walk with God.

Furthermore, community gives us the opportunity to put into practice the gifts God has given us. We can use our talents and abilities to serve others and work together in God's work. Community also allows us to bring *the light of Christ* to those who do not yet know Him, whether through missions or through personal witness.

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Attention! This is one of the possible interpretations based on the comments of famous theologians, which may differ from each other. If the interpretation is taken from other languages, then there may be a distortion of meaning when translating the language. *Matthew 7:7-8*

> Very truly I tell you, whoever accepts anyone I send accepts me; and whoever accepts me accepts the one who sent me.
> *— John 13:20*

Book: New Testament / John
Topics: community, gentleness, Jesus

Interpretation:
John 13:20 shows *Jesus* speaking to his disciples at the Last Supper. This is a profound verse that shows the close relationship that exists between Jesus and those who represent Him. Jesus is instructing his disciples about the ministry they will have in the world and the importance of welcoming those sent.

Jesus sends us to do His work

To understand this statement from Jesus, it is important to recognize that He has sent us as His followers to do His work in the world. This means that we should not only seek to have a close relationship with Jesus, but also to go out into the world and share His love with others.

In one of the next verses, Jesus tells his disciples, *“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another” (John 13:34)*. We are to show love and compassion to others as Jesus showed us.

It is very important to receive the one Jesus sends

The first part of the verse, which says, *“whoever accepts anyone I send accepts me,”* is an important statement. Not only should we be ready to receive those whom Jesus sends to us, but it is important because Jesus is present in them.

To receive Jesus is to receive the Father

In the last part of the verse, *“and whoever accepts me accepts the one who sent me,”* Jesus shows the close relationship that exists between *Him and the Father* by declaring that to receive the one sent by Jesus is to receive Jesus, and therefore: *the Father*. This is a key statement of Christian doctrine, which teaches that *Jesus and God are one*. Therefore, to receive and welcome those sent by Jesus is a way of welcoming God Himself.

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> And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.
>
> *— Matthew 16:18*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: community, Church, hell

Interpretation:
In Matthew 16, *Jesus* encounters His disciples as they pass through the area around Caesarea Philippi. He asks them who they think He is. *Peter*, filled with deep faith and conviction, replies, *“You are the Christ, the Son of the living God” (Matthew 16:16)*.

Jesus acknowledges the importance of this statement by declaring that this revelation did not come from human flesh and blood, but from *the Father in heaven*. It is at this point that Jesus tells Peter, *“And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.”*

Peter as a rock

This statement by Jesus has been the source of controversy and disagreement throughout Church history. Some have interpreted it to mean that Jesus was speaking of Peter as the rock upon which the Church would be built.

However, others have argued that the “rock” Jesus refers to is Peter’s confession of faith, and that Jesus is indicating that the Church will be built upon the truth of his confession.

The Church of Jesus

Regardless of the precise interpretation, this passage emphasizes the importance of the Church of Jesus and its foundation in the supernatural truth of divine revelation. Through His Church, Jesus provides saving grace to all the nations of the world, and the “gates of hell” will never prevail against it.

This verse also serves as a reminder that the Church belongs to Jesus, not to anyone who has authority over it. Its foundation in divine truth makes it stable and able to withstand the ravages of time and history.

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> For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them.
> — *Matthew 18:20*

Book: New Testament / Matthew
Topics: community, Church, Jesus, Prayer

Interpretation:
In *Matthew 18:20* we find a verse that tells us about the power of gathering together in the *name of Jesus*. In this passage, Jesus talks about the importance of coming together in community and how God’s presence is revealed through the union of His followers.

The idea of ??gathering together in the name of Jesus has been an important theme of the Christian church since its inception. In the early days of Christianity, believers gathered in homes to worship and study the word of God. The early church was a committed and close-knit group of Christians who shared a faith and goals. This is the type of community that Jesus had in mind when he spoke of gathering together in His name.

In modern life, we continue to gather together in religious communities to worship God and grow in our relationship with God. When we gather together in the name of Jesus, we do more than just gather together. We acknowledge the presence of God in our lives and in our community.

The importance of gathering together in the name of Jesus is that it gives us the opportunity to share our experiences. It allows us to worship God together, study God's word, and share ideas and thoughts. Christian community offers support and help in times of need, as well as the guidance and support needed to deal with life's challenges.

Moreover, the *presence of the Lord* among two or more people gathered in His name shows us the value of personal connections within the community. Each of us plays an important role in the lives of others and in the life of the church as a whole. When we gather together, our lives are connected and enrich each other.

It is important to note that gathering in the name of Jesus does not have to be an exclusive activity of the church. We can find opportunities to gather in the name of Jesus in our homes, communities, and workplaces. Every time we gather with others in a spirit of love and unity, we are building a community of faith around the presence of the Lord.

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> How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!
> *— Psalm 133:1*

Book: Old Testament / Psalms
Topics: community, family, friendship

Interpretation:
Psalm 133:1 is one of the most famous verses in the Bible that emphasizes the importance of unity and harmony among brothers. The word *"God's people"* or *"brothers"* does not refer to a literal family relationship, but rather to those who share the same values, beliefs, and goals in the Christian faith.

Why is harmony among brothers and sisters important?

Harmony among fellow believers is of great importance in the life of a Christian and the Church as a whole. When there is unity and common understanding among church members, an atmosphere of

love, peace, and solidarity is created, which allows for effective leadership and more productive teamwork.

When a community of believers lives together in harmony, the gospel message is more effective and God's grace is more clearly seen. Consider what *Jesus* says in *John 13:35: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."*

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> Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.
> — *Romans 12:16*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: community, contentment, dependence, humility, pride

Interpretation:
Romans 12:16 tells us about the importance of unity and harmony among believers. It is vital that we strive to maintain good relationships with our brothers and sisters in the faith, working together toward a common goal. A united community is essential to our spiritual growth and will allow us to better cope with the challenges that come our way.

Don't be arrogant

This same verse warns us about the importance of not being arrogant. We should always remain humble, regardless of our social or economic status. Humility allows us to learn and grow in our relationships by recognizing our own limitations and accepting the differences we may have with others.

Associate with the humble

Not only should we maintain a humble attitude, but we should also seek to associate with those who are also humble. Humility is contagious, and associating with people who practice it will help us develop it in our lives.

Additionally, showing humility will also allow us to reach out to those who have fewer resources or who are in difficult situations, offering them our help and support.

Don't be wise in your own opinion

Finally, we are reminded that we should not be wise in our own eyes. This means that we should not rely solely on our own knowledge and skills, but recognize that there is always more to learn. We should be willing to listen to the opinions of others and be open to the possibility of learning something new.

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> For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.
> *— Romans 12:4-5*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: community, body, Church, dependence, Jesus

Interpretation:
The human body consists of many members, each with a specific purpose. The health and strength of the body depends on how well each member performs its task.

It is the same in the Body of Christ. It includes the unity (one body), diversity (many), and interrelation (one for another) of all members. Any gifts are not intended for self-gratification, but for the good of the body. No gift is sufficient in itself; nor is any unnecessary. It is this understanding that gives us due modesty (12:3).

The church is the body of Christ, a living proof of the existence of God, since it is the result of the ministry begun by Jesus. We are members of the body, and each member fulfills its role, so let us stop comparing ourselves with others in the church, and let us value the talent God has given us, which is unique and important for the rest of the body.

If you have not yet identified your talent, pray and ask God to show you how you can help fulfill your role in the Body of Christ.

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> Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters.
>
> — *Romans 14:1*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: community, faith

Interpretation:
When we talk about weakness of faith, it may seem like a negative term, but the reality is that each of us has experienced a crisis of faith at some point in our lives. This may happen in difficult situations where we question whether God is truly present or in times when we do not understand *the teachings of the Bible*.

From a biblical perspective, it is important to embrace those who are weak in faith. This means that we should show compassion and love to those who have difficulty understanding or following Christian principles. Instead of judging them, we should patiently and lovingly guide them to a better *understanding of God's Word*.

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> May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same attitude of mind toward each other that Christ Jesus had.
>
> — *Romans 15:5*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: community, Comforter, encouragement, patience

Interpretation:

Romans 15:5 is a call for unity in the church. It is a call to be on the same page with other believers who are guided by the teachings *of Christ*.

The verse begins with the mention of the *"God of patience and comfort."* This expression refers to the God who is patient and comforts his children at all times. The next message is that God wants to give *"the like-mindedness in Christ Jesus."* That is, God wants the church to have a collective conscience, so that everyone feels that Christ is their guide.

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> I urge you, brothers and sisters, to watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. Keep away from them.
>
> *— Romans 16:17*

Book: New Testament / Romans
Topics: community, Church, evil, Holiness

Interpretation:
In *Romans 16:17, the Apostle Paul* calls the believers in Rome to beware of those who cause divisions and hinder the doctrines they have learned. The significance of this call is not limited to the believers in first-century Rome, but applies to all Christians in the world at all times. Unity of faith is an important theme in the Bible, and this verse highlights its importance.

Why is unity of faith important?

Unity of faith is important because it strengthens the Christian community and ensures doctrinal stability. Christians must be united in their faith so that they can strengthen one another, build up the church, and be effective witnesses *of Jesus Christ* to the world.

When Christians are divided, the church loses its power and its witness is weakened. Furthermore, when some church members challenge established doctrine, it can cause confusion and distrust among other believers, leading to disunity and alienation from the church.

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