

Introduction:

1. Often unity is lost, not because of some doctrinal, but rather because of matters of the heart.
2. The truth is every congregation is potentially just one disagreement, argument, or misunderstanding away from division. How can we keep the unity we have at Elliottsville?
Ephesians 4:2-3. Paul gives us four qualities that are necessary to keep the unity we have in Jesus

Discussion:

I. Lowliness

- A. A spirit of lowliness is needed so the people of God will stay together.
- B. This type of quality is needed so that the family of God can stay together.
 1. Jesus led a life of humility. **Philippians 2:3- 5, 8.**
 2. **Ephesians 3:6.**
 3. The mind of Jesus will help us to put the interests of others in front of our own., **Acts 4:34.**
 4. When we put the needs of others first, we will be able to keep the unity we have.

II. Gentleness

- A. A demeanor of gentleness is needed for brethren to be unified.
 1. It's being gentle, even when we might be attacked.
 2. Jesus was gentle and meek in spirit, **Matthew 11:29.** Yet we understand He was still strong and bold.
- B. This quality is needed in any a church so it will continue to enjoy peace and unity.
 1. We need to discipline our emotions even when others don't, **Proverbs 16:32.** We need to guard our words, even when others don't, **Proverbs 17:27-28; Ephesians 4:29.**
 2. We have to determine to do the right thing no matter what. This will foster unity.

III. Longsuffering

- A. A spirit of longsuffering promotes unity. **2 Peter 3:9**
- B. This type of heart is needed for the sake of unity. **Acts 8:21-22; Acts 6:1; Philippians 4:2; 2 Corinthians 2:7; 1 John 1:9-10; Colossians 2:13-14.**

IV. Love

- A. Love is the thing that holds everything else together. **John 3:16; 1 John 4:9**
- B. Love is what we must demonstrate if we want unity and peace to prevail. **Matthew 18:15-18; Galatians 2:11-14**

Conclusion:

Psalm 133:1