

Unity

Rhythms of the Kingdom | week 5

Hayden | Oct 30th & Nov 2nd 2025 | Josh Austin



As a church our unity is our greatest testimony to the world that Jesus is who He says He is and did what He said He did.

John 17:20-23 NIV

“My prayer is not for them alone. I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message,²¹ that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me.²² I have given them the glory that you gave me, that they may be one as we are one—²³ I in them and you in me—so that they may be brought to complete unity. Then the world will know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me.”

Ephesians 4:1-6 ESV; Ephesians 4:11-16 ESV

3 Things we fight for to maintain the unity of the Spirit

1. Fight for _____

Jude 3-4 ESV

Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.⁴ For certain people have crept in unnoticed who long ago were designated for this condemnation, ungodly people, who pervert the grace of our God into sensuality and deny our only Master and Lord, Jesus Christ.

1 Timothy 6:11-12 ESV

But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and about which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

1 Corinthians 16:13 ESV

Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 ESV

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

2. Fight for _____

You must pursue peace with others because Christ pursued peace with you.

Ephesians 4:1b-3 ESV

... 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.

Peace-Making vs. Peace-Faking

- **Peace-makers** - Understand the gospel.
- **Peace-fakers** - Misunderstand the gospel

3. Fight to pursue _____

Ephesians 4:14-15 ESV

... so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ

Unity and spiritual maturity are inseparable. The more spiritually mature you become, the more unified we are as a church.

OUR UNITY IS OUR TESTIMONY

2 Timothy 3:1-7 ESV

But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people. For among them are those who creep into households and capture weak women, burdened with sins and led astray by various passions, always learning and never able to arrive at a knowledge of the truth.

2 Timothy 4:7-8 ESV

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

