



One
Ephesians 4:4-6
Sunday, January 12, 2020

The _____ Church	The _____ Church
the church whom _____ and is _____	the church that _____ and is often divided

The call to eagerly maintain the unity of the church is a call to do all we can to maintain the unity of the _____ church for God's glory, for the good of one another and as a witness to the world.

4 practical ways every one of us can maintain the unity of the church:

- _____ and _____ to Grace Central Coast.
- _____ and _____ the unity of the local church and universal church as God does.
- _____ for and personally _____ the character qualities that maintain unity: humility, gentleness, patience, forbearing love.
- _____ those qualities to _____ in your own conflicts, between others in our church and between churches where possible.

Last week we saw that walking in a manner worthy of our calling means, first, eagerly maintaining the unity of the church. And the WAY we are called to eagerly maintain unity is through humility, gentleness, patience and forbearing love.

Today, we'll see the REASON we are called to eagerly maintain unity is because of all that the Triune God has done to unite His church by, in, and for the Gospel.

The Triune God has United Us as His Church

One _____	One _____	One _____ & _____
unites us in one _____	unites us in one _____, one _____ and one _____	unites us in one _____

If the Church is so united, then why is the Church so _____?

In order to answer that question, we must make some important distinctions about the church . . .

The _____ Church	One _____ church
the body of Christ around the _____ and across _____	the body of Christ with whom we _____, _____, and _____ together in Christ



NEXT WEEK
Gifted
Ephesians 4:7-10



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Ephesians 4:4-6
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Growth Groups are the glue which holds our church together, the way we find and follow Jesus together. If you are not involved in a Growth Group, now is the time to jump in at gracecentralcoast.org.

This year, our aim is to see our Growth Groups embody our 3-fold identity as followers of Jesus: Family, Servant, and Missionary. To that end, we're framing our Growth Group Interaction Guide to help groups move in that direction.

Connecting Together

Take time to share highs and lows, joys and struggles from the week past.

Digging into God's Word & the Message Together

1. How did you come under God's Word in the message this week? How did God speak to you this week? What truth did you need to hear again or for the first time in this message?
2. Read John 17:20-23. What is the twice stated purpose of unity according to Jesus? How do the current and historical divisions of the church impact the witness of the church in the world?
3. Read again Ephesians 4:1-6. Thinking about last week, what is the WAY we maintain the unity of the church? This week what is the REASON we are to maintain the unity of the church?

4. How does the distinction between the invisible church and the visible church help us understand this text and the call to maintain unity?
5. **Your Growth Group as a Family:** Four practical ways every one of us can maintain unity were highlighted in the message. Which one of those is most relevant for you?
6. **Your Growth Group as a Servant/Missionary:** What are some ways your group can welcome some not-yet-Christians into the fellowship of your Growth Group "so the world may believe"?

Why is the unity of our multi-campus vision at Grace Central Coast a powerful witness to a watching world? How do we continue to cultivate unity across our campuses?

Praying Together

- Pray for your unity as a Growth Group.
- Pray for the unity of Grace Central Coast.
- Pray for the unity of the Church across the Central Coast.
- Pray for the unity of the Church around the world.