

## Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We thank God for His grace in granting us another day. As we begin, I invite you to reflect with me on a powerful truth from Scripture: the role of **spiritual unity in the Church** as a testimony to the world.

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### Why Is It Difficult Today to Reach the Lost With the Gospel?

When we talk about “*those outside*,” we refer to those who are either secular (worldly) or followers of other religions. Evangelism is becoming more difficult in our time, but why?

While it is true that “*The Lord knows those who are His*” (2 Timothy 2:19), that truth should **not be an excuse** to neglect the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20). The real issue lies within the Church itself: **we have failed to walk in spiritual unity**.

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### The Witness of Unity - A Key to Evangelism

Jesus prayed a profound prayer just before His crucifixion:

*John 17:21-23*

“That they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.”

In this passage, Jesus reveals that the *credibility of the Gospel to the world is directly connected to the unity of believers*. When Christians walk in Spirit-led unity, it validates the claim that Jesus is the Son of God sent by the Father.

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#### Not All Unity is From God

Jesus was not calling for superficial or institutional unity—such as denominational alliances or interfaith coalitions. Instead, He was praying for **spiritual unity**—the kind produced by the Holy Spirit.

*Ephesians 4:3-6*

“Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.”

This “unity of the Spirit” is **doctrinally grounded and Spirit-enabled**. It’s not just emotional or organizational—it is unity in truth and love, founded on the person and work of Christ.

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**Core Elements of True Spiritual Unity**

**1. One Lord - Jesus Christ**

Not a prophet, saint, or religious founder, but the risen Lord (Acts 4:12). He is the cornerstone (Ephesians 2:20).

**2. One Faith - The Gospel-centered belief in Christ**

This faith is rooted in the **Holy Scriptures**, not human tradition (Jude 1:3, 2 Timothy 3:16-17).

**3. One Baptism - In the Name of Jesus Christ**

The early Church practiced **baptism by immersion in the name of Jesus** (Acts 2:38; 8:16; 10:48; 19:5). This is not to deny the triune nature of God (Matthew 28:19), but rather to affirm that Jesus is the revealed name through whom salvation comes (Acts 4:12).

#### 4. One Spirit - The Holy Spirit

The Spirit indwells every believer, uniting us into one body (1 Corinthians 12:13), and empowers us to bear fruit (Galatians 5:22-23).

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##### When the Church is United, Christ is Revealed

If the Church aligns itself with these truths and lives them out visibly, then **our witness to the world becomes powerful and persuasive**—not just in words, but in life and love.

*Jesus said, “By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another” (John 13:35).*

Disunity sends a conflicting message. When believers are divided by denominations, doctrines, and personal interests, the Gospel is blurred in the eyes of the world.

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##### A Call to Examine Ourselves

So we must ask:

## **Is the unity that Jesus prayed for present in us today?**

If not, we must acknowledge that something is broken. And if it's broken, it must be restored—not for our benefit only, but for the sake of the Gospel among the nations.

This is not just a personal goal; **it is a divine command.**

“I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me...” (*John 17:23*)

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Preaching Christ Through Our Unity

Let's strive, by the help of the Holy Spirit, to return to **biblical unity**—in doctrine, in Spirit, and in love. When we do, we will no longer need to strive as hard to convince people about Christ. **Our very unity will preach Christ to the nations.**

**Shalom.**

**Come, Lord Jesus!**

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