

## THE PURPOSEFUL PRIORITY OF UNITY

### Ephesians 4:1-6

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The Apostle Paul understood that being connected to other Christians in harmonious relationships is a foundational aspect of Christian discipleship.

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The Gospel and relationships

Colossians 1:19-20 (NLT)

Colossians 3:11 (NLT)

Ephesians 2:14-16 (NLT)

John 13:34-35 (NLT)

Ephesians 4:1-6 (NLT)

PURPOSEFUL ONENESS

Ephesians 4:1 (NLT)

Ephesians 4:3 (NLT) United = \_\_\_\_\_

The quality of Christian oneness is like the parts of the body. (Roman 12 & 1 Corinthian 12)

Mutual concern. 1 Corinthians 12:26

Coordinated function.

HOW TO GROW IN ONENESS

Oneness is not about what we do but what we are becoming.

Ephesians 4:2 (NLT)

Humility

Philippians 2:3-4; Philippians 2:5-8

Gentleness

Patience

*"... making allowances for each other's faults because of your love."*

THE BASIS OF OUR ONENESS (Ephesians 4:4-6)

One body

One Spirit – Romans 8:9b (NLT)

John 17:21

One hope

One Lord

One faith

One baptism – 1 Corinthians 12:13

One Father

Striving for oneness transforms us into the people God wants us to become.

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NOTES:

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## DISCUSION QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think the church tends to focus more on our personal relationship with God and less on our relationship with other believers?
2. Why do you think we tend to focus more on religious activity than character transformation?
3. Jesus says that our harmony with other believers is essential to our influence in the world. (John 13:34-35; John 17:21) Why do you think he makes this connection?
4. Why is it so difficult for us to put the interests of others above our own interests?
5. Share a time when someone put your interests above their own.
6. How did their humility make you feel?
7. What steps are you taking to become a gentler person, less likely to become angry or irritated with others?
8. Why is it so difficult to be patient with people who continually disappoint us?
9. What are some of the ways we naturally feel connected to other people?
10. How can we learn to prioritize the spiritual connection that we have with other Christians?
11. What are some ways that you could increase your connection with other Christians?
12. Give an example of how a relationship between you and another Christian has help you grow in humility, gentleness, or patience?
13. What would you say to a Christian that does not think she or he needs to be connected to other believers?

**Welcome**  
to  
**Hillcrest Church!**

**Be Blessed**  
**Worshiping This**  
**Morning!**

*Make every effort to keep the unity of the  
Spirit through the bond of peace.*

*Ephesians 4:3*

*January 30, 2022*  
*Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BACK IN THE HOUSE FOR WORSHIP

We are happy to be back in the facility for worship today and in the weeks ahead. Be sure to check your email and church website to see if anything changes.

### THIS MORNING

Tim Brooks will be speaking on the Purposeful Priority of Unity.

### ANNUAL MEETING NEXT WEEK FEBRUARY 6TH

Better called "Vision Sunday", because our annual meeting is about the future of the church. Pastor Bruce will deliver a message about the vision of Hillcrest, then after the service we will begin our "Vision Meeting". Don't miss this important Sunday.

### JOIN US FOR OUR ONLINE GATHERINGS

Tuesday Prayer at 7:00pm

Wednesday Bible Study at 6:30pm

Go to the online meeting room on our website ([hillcrestRoseville.com](http://hillcrestRoseville.com)) to access the gathering.

### YOGA FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Saturday 10am yoga is postponed until further notices due covid.

### BOOKS FOR THE NEXT SERMON SERIES ARE AVAILABLE

Pastor Bruce's book on legalism is available in the back of the sanctuary for \$20, or any donation. The book is also available on amazon in the kindle format. All proceeds of the book go into the building fund.

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Our offering box is in the back of the sanctuary. You can place your tithes and offerings there, or you can visit our website and give online ([hillcrestroseville.com](http://hillcrestroseville.com)).

## HILLCREST CHURCH DIRECTORY UPDATE FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
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Return form to box in the back or to Tim Brooks

(If you prefer you may email information to Tim Brooks  
[timnealbr@gmail.com](mailto:timnealbr@gmail.com))