

Wyoming Baptist Church
April 2021

Daily Devotional
for Sermon Series



a study of the "one anothers" of Scripture

Week 8 : April 5 - 9

"Be united with one another"

The following series of daily readings, questions, and prayers has been designed by Pastor Tom Cullen to lead up to the sermon for the coming week. There are five daily studies for each week. Allow about 15 minutes a day to complete each daily devotional. This is not to take the place of any devotional you may now be doing but only is a supplement.

The weekly sermons can be heard at wyomingbaptist.com

Each week's daily devotional guide is also available online at wyomingbaptist.com

Sermon Schedule
Members of one another

April 4 - Easter Sunday - What difference does the resurrection make? (1 Corinthians 15:12-22)

April 11 - Be united with one another (Ephesians 4:1-16)

April 18 - Pray for one another (James 5:16)

April 25 - Encourage one another (Hebrews 10:19-25)

Wyoming Baptist Church Spring 2021

Sermon Series Devotional Guide

Members of one another

a study of the "one anothers"

"Be united with one another"

One of the gravest sins of the church of the 20th century is the sin of division. And we need to be aware of it, especially we Baptists. There seems to be as many different kinds of Baptists as there are chocolate bars. And it's a blotch on our history.

Speaking at a Baptist assembly a church historian said, "Many of you Baptists trace your history back to the sixteenth century. Some trace your beginning to the Day of Pentecost, others to John the Baptist. But I'm here to tell you, you're all wrong. The origin of the Baptist goes back to the book of Genesis where Abraham said to Lot, "You go your way and I'll go mine." It's funny and sad at the same time.

Jesus tells us that unity is important in his church as he prays in John 17 saying, "My prayer is not for them alone. (He's speaking of the disciples here) I pray also for those who will believe in me through their message, that all of them may be one, Father, just as you are in me and I am in you." (verse 20,21) Clearly our unity is a reflection of God himself. A divided church is a sinful church.

Of course the Roman Catholics could charge us all with division because we are Protestants. But to leave a church that has become apostate is not division, it is a duty.

The division we must beware of is that which seeks to divide over matters that are not really important. This was the problem in the Corinthian church (read 1 Corinthians) and Paul had to denounce them.

As you begin this week's study pray that God will keep us from the sin of division and unite us together with one heart, mind and purpose.

Monday April 5

Read

❖ Ephesians 2:14-22

Study

1. It has been said that "To have unity we must all be uniform." Do you agree or disagree? Why?

2. Ephesians 2 describes a reality that has been achieved for us by our Lord. How would you describe what has been done for us in Christ?

3. What does this passage say is the cause of our unity? (verses 19-22)

4. How do you see these verses realized at Wyoming Baptist Church?

Pray

❖ It has been said that the greatest prayer we can pray is, “.. *not as I will, but as you will*”. Let that prayer be the focus of your time with God today.

For our church:

- ❖ Pray for those who are neighbors to Wyoming Baptist. I once heard a pastor ask, “Would our community miss us if we closed the doors of our church?” Pray that our community would indeed miss us if Wyoming were to close. Pray that as a church we may be able to reach out to the needs of our community in ways that are meaningful and helpful. May we be moved to act according to God’s leading.
- ❖ Tonight is the second night of visioning for us at WBC. Be sure to register and come for 7:00. Be in prayer for one another that God would knit us together with a common vision.

Read

❖ Ephesians 4:1-6

Study

1. We are urged to live a life worthy of the calling we have received. Given yesterday's reading, what is that calling?

2. What attitudes will make it possible? (verse 2) Are there any you need to develop?

3. Why do you think, these attitudes are so important for maintaining unity?

4. What does verse 3 say is the way of unity? What does that look like practically?

5. There are seven "ones" listed in verses 4-6. How do these contribute to our living in unity?

Reflect

Scripture says, God has made you one, now walk in that unity. Be sure to get the order right. We sometimes read the exhortations of the Scripture as commands, when in reality God is saying - "It's been done, God has made us one in Christ, now become what you are." It's not a command it's statement that says, "you are now able to be united because Christ has made us one." Some couples divorce because of "irreconcilable differences". Not in Christ's family. There are no irreconcilable differences. Not with Christ as our head, the one who has made us one.

Pray

- ❖ Take time to give thanks to God for the truths that we have been studying. Ask Him to give you opportunities to share these truths with others.

For our church:

- ❖ Daystar Native Outreach is our Missions partner in reaching and ministering to indigenous people of Ontario. Pray that "Whenever they speak, words may be given to them so that they will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel..."(Ephesians 6:19)
- ❖ Pray that Daystar Native Outreach will also have discernment in how to minister during the pandemic. Pray as Paul prayed for the Philippians, "That their love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that they may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ - the glory and praise of God." (Philippians 1:9-11)

Wednesday April 7

Read

❖ Ephesians 4:7-16

Study

1. Who is the source of the talents and gifts that are exercised by individual Christians? (Verses 7,8)

2. In verses 8-10 The Lord is compared to a conquering hero whose triumphal procession fills “the whole universe.” He then distributes gifts (the spoils of victory) to his people. What are the gifts and their purpose? (verses 11-13)

3. What is different from spiritual infancy from spiritual maturity? (verses 14-16)

Reflect

❖ How does this description of the church affect your vision for the church?

❖ How can you participate in the life of Wyoming Baptist to help bring everyone to spiritual maturity?

Pray

- ❖ Ask God to show you ways in which you can continue to die to self and live for Him.

For our church:

- ❖ Scripture tells us how to “Test and approve what God’s will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will”. We are not “to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.” (Romans 12:2) Pray that this truth will be realized in our pastoral search team.

Thursday April 8

Reading

- ❖ John 17:20,21 (We examined this passage earlier as we were focusing on God’s call to love one another. This week, and next, we focus on this passage to hear the call to unity)

Study

1. What does Jesus pray?

2. How does he describe our oneness?

3. What will be the result of our unity?

Reflect

Why would unity in the church be a pointer to the reality of God in our midst?

Pray

- ❖ Ask the Holy Spirit to come and search your heart today. Specifically ask Him to search out any area in which you are seeing but not believing, believing but not committing.

For our church:

Tonight is a visioning night in our church. Continue to pray that God will knit us together so that we may have one purpose for his glory.

Friday April 9

Read

- ❖ John 17:22,23

Study

1. What is it that will bring God's people into complete unity?

2. Is this unity something that is given us or something we need to create?

Reflect

- ❖ What is the result of a church's unity? Have you seen that realized?

Pray

For our church:

