

Unforgettable: The Words of Jesus... about Unity

John 17:23; Matthew 13:45-46; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

4 Commitments to Keeping the Church Unified

1. Commit to humility *Matthew 18:1-5*

“True humility means knowing yourself, accepting yourself, and being yourself—your best self—to the glory of God. It means avoiding two extremes: thinking less of yourself than you ought to (as did Moses when God called him, Ex. 3:11), or thinking more of yourself than you ought to (Rom. 12:3). The truly humble person does not deny the gifts God has given him, but uses them to the glory of God.” - Warren Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary*.

2. Commit to care *Matthew 18:12-13*

3. Commit to resolve *Matthew 18:15-20*

The Matthew 18 Principle

- Go to the person alone to share your heart
- Go with a couple trusted believers to share your heart
- Go to your trusted church family and share your heart
- Love the person with boundaries

4. Commit to forgive *Matthew 18:21-35*

Next Week's Reading Guide:

Matthew 19:1-6
Matthew 19:7-12
Ephesians 5:21-33
Genesis 2:18-25
Genesis 3:16-19
1 Corinthians 7:1-16
Revelation 19:6-9

Discussion Questions:

1. Discuss the Pearl parable. What is your favorite part about the similarities between the Pearl and the Church?
2. Discuss Jesus Christ as the irritant; what other places in scripture discuss Jesus causing irritation in the World?
3. Of the 4 commitments to Unity in the Church, which of the 4 is the most challenging for you? Why?
4. Of the 4, which is the most natural for you? Why?
5. Have you used the Matthew 18 principle? How did it turn out? Discuss.