

## Philippians 2:1-4

### The Key to Having Unity

The bond we have in Christ should give believers a unique unity unmatched by anyone else. Our passage today emphasizes this, while revealing the key to maintaining such unity.

> Paul points out four results that come from believers who are united, along with a goal that goes along with each.

- | Four results of unity (v. 1):        | Four goals of unity (v. 2):    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. <u>Encouragement in Christ</u>    | 1. <u>Being like-minded</u>    |
| 2. <u>Comfort from Christ's love</u> | 2. <u>Having the same love</u> |
| 3. <u>Fellowship of the Spirit</u>   | 3. <u>Being one in spirit</u>  |
| 4. <u>Concern/love for others</u>    | 4. <u>Being one in purpose</u> |

> What are some benefits that come from such qualities? We can encourage one another, comfort those who may be hurting, enjoy hanging out with each other, pursue the same goals, etc.

> What perspective should we have on others according to verses 3 and 4? View others as more significant than ourselves; do not be consumed with ourselves; focus on the interests of others.

### Application

No one likes strife and fighting. To resolve such issues, the key comes down to swallowing our pride and taking steps in the right direction. In such situations, ask yourself:

1. Can I honestly say that I have a Christ-like attitude about this situation?
2. Is my focus on helping this situation or am I focused on just getting my way?
3. How can my words and actions better show I care about the other person(s) more than myself?

God wants us to enjoy peace and unity through the common ground we share in our faith. Practicing humility and putting others first will make the unity God desires for us a reality!

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| 2. _____                      | 2. _____                    |
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