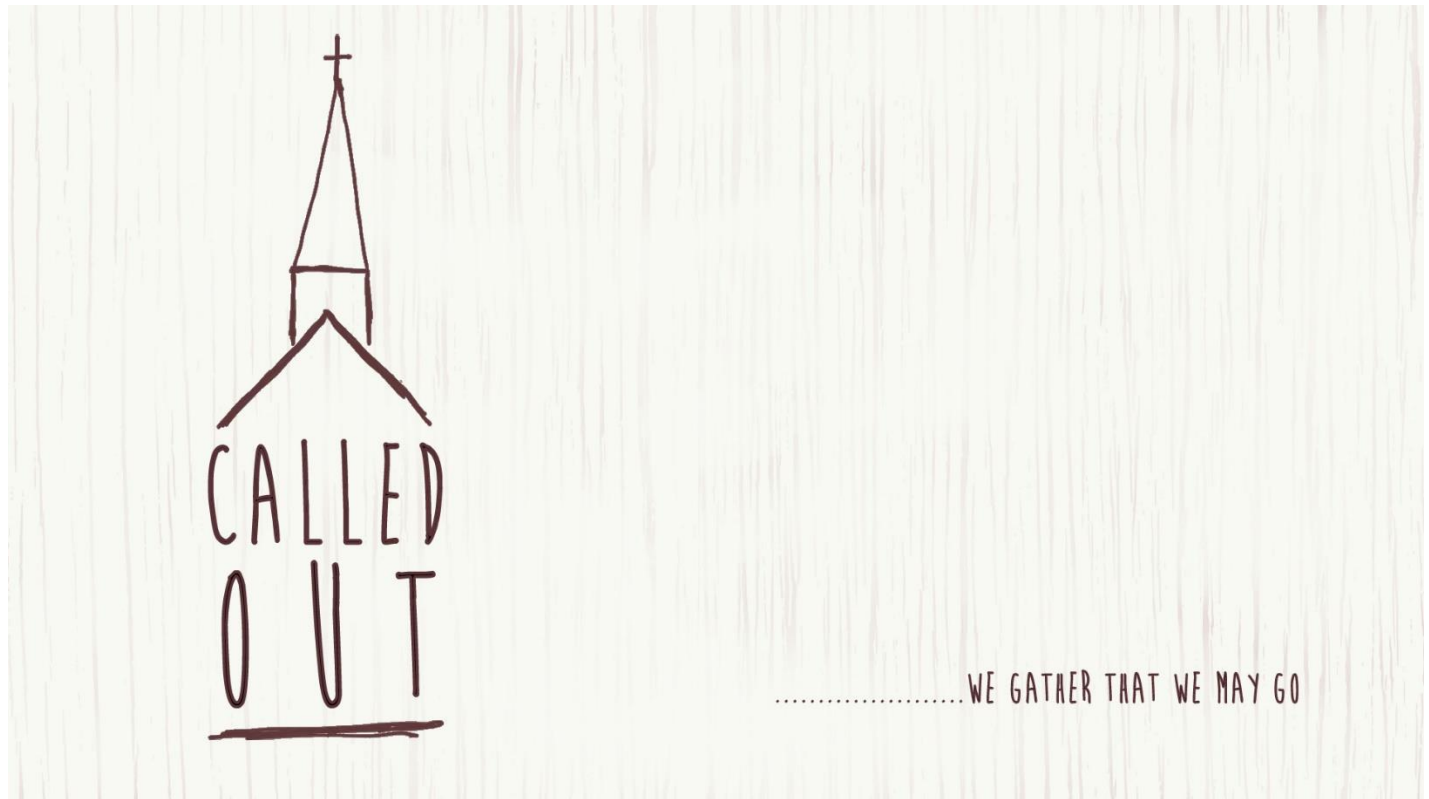


CALLED TO BE ONE



Notes:

1.

2.

3.

SERMON-BASED STUDY

For the week of January 13, 2019

Eph 4:1-6

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

ENGAGE WITH THE MESSAGE

1 This weekend we were reminded that God calls us to unity as followers of Christ. Why is unity so important to God?

2 We also see that love is the bond that holds the body of believers together in unity. How have you practically shown the love of God to another believer for the sake of unity?

3 Unity is the result of our heart condition. How does your heart need to be transformed for the sake of unity?

DIGGING DEEPER

1 **Phil 2:5-8, ESV** – ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Titus 3:1-2, ESV – Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, ² to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.

1 Tim 1:15-16, ESV – ¹⁵ The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. ¹⁶ But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life.

Col 3:13, ESV – ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

Looking at the passages above, explain how Jesus was, and is, our example for humility, meekness, patience, and bearing with others?

Why are these virtues critical for enhancing unity within the church?

Which of these virtues would others say is prevalent in your life? Which of these virtues would others say is not prevalent in your life? Explain.

2 **1 Cor 12:12-13, ESV** – ¹² For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

1 Cor 8:6, ESV – ⁶ yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

Gal 3:25-28, ESV – ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Looking at the passages above, we see that oneness is of high importance to God. Why is oneness so important to God?

As part of the body of Christ, we are all expected to fulfill our role for the betterment of the church. Do you know what your role is? If so, how are you fulfilling your role in the church?

3 **1 Thess 2:10-12, ESV** – ¹⁰ You are witnesses, and God also, how holy and righteous and blameless was our conduct toward you believers. ¹¹ For you know how, like a father with his children, ¹² we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

Looking at the passage above and Eph 4:1-6, we are reminded that Christians are all called according to His power. Why is it important to understand that God initiates the call?

Likewise, His presence provides the means for us to fulfill our calling. How are you allowing God's presence to work in your heart, and in turn to fulfill your calling within the church?

TAKING IT HOME

God has called us to be united with Him and with other believers. Each of us has a responsibility to fulfill the role He has called us to within the church. How are you fulfilling your God-given calling? Is there something you need to change or new practice you need to implement? Take time this week praying about your specific role in the body of Christ and how you can be an advocate for unity.

PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUEST

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FOR FURTHER STUDY

Rom 5:2
Rom 8:9
Rom 9:22
2 Cor 5:20
1 Cor 12:5-6
Col 1:27-28
Col 2: 7
2 Tim 2:15, 25
2 Peter 1:10