



ONE

Devotional 2026



**20 YEARS
RESTORING FAMILIES
WITH GOD**



CHAP.17



ONE SPIRIT

EPHESIANS 4:3–4 NLT

MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO KEEP YOURSELVES UNITED IN THE SPIRIT, BINDING YOURSELVES TOGETHER WITH PEACE. FOR THERE IS ONE BODY AND ONE SPIRIT, JUST AS YOU HAVE BEEN CALLED TO ONE GLORIOUS HOPE FOR THE FUTURE.

From the beginning, God's desire—manifested in His design—was not to create isolated individuals, but to create a community united to Him and united with each other.

Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us..."
Genesis 1:26 NLT

God Himself exists in unity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. By creating us in His image, He marked us with that same quality; we were made for communion, for unity, and to be ONE. That is why when God says, "It is not good for man to be alone" (Genesis 2:18), He is not only referring to emotional loneliness, but to the fact that human beings were not designed to live disconnected from God, nor from one another. We were made to live in common—in unity.

As we just read in the verse from Ephesians 4, the apostle Paul says, "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit..." This implies something profound: unity does not happen automatically. That is why we can do things together, we can live under the same roof, share activities and events, even a bed, and still not be one. We are simply together in the natural realm, but not in the Spirit.

Everyday example: Two people can row the same boat but if each rows in a different direction, the boat doesn't move forward...it spins around. Likewise, many relationships, churches, and families are not divided by distance, but by direction. They stay together but they accomplish nothing; they don't prosper or have influence. This is because what unites them is an ideology, objectives, or goals that—while they may be good—cannot do what only the Spirit of God within us can do.

True unity is not based on physical proximity, but on a shared spirit, a shared purpose, a shared direction, and a shared vision: that of our Father.

The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body.

So it is with the body of Christ. Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles, some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:12-13 NLT

The unity God requires cannot be manufactured by human means. True unity is not born of intellectual agreement, but of spiritual work.

Analogy of the human body

In the body, there are hormones like laminin whose function is to maintain cell cohesion. If this cohesion is lost, the body becomes ill; cancer may even develop. Each cell begins to live for itself and reproduce something incorrect, as we saw in the chapter "The Body." Likewise, when the Holy Spirit governs, the body of Christ functions in harmony; when the Spirit does not govern, each person lives according to their own understanding.

But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

There is no law against these things!

Galatians 5:22-23 NLT

The result of the Spirit within us is that it produces everything necessary for us to relate correctly, to be ONE. Without the Holy Spirit, each person interprets life in their own way, pursues their own ideals, and defines their own truth. That is why the world is full of busy people, but not united; active but not aligned with altruistic ideals; and not carrying out our Father's good, pleasing, and perfect plan to redeem all humanity.

For everything comes from him and exists by his power and is intended for his glory...

Romans 11:36 NLT

This completely changes our perspective because we don't belong to ourselves. We weren't created to fulfill and achieve only personal dreams. We were created for His plan, His pleasure, and His purpose. Unity in the Spirit lies in understanding the answer to one question: **Who are we in Him?**

The Bible shows us that we are not isolated individuals, but rather:

- His body with the same spiritual DNA. (1 Corinthians 12:27)
- His army to reclaim what the enemy has usurped. (Ephesians 6:12; 2 Timothy 2:3)
- His family, enjoying His love and inheritance. (Ephesians 2:19)
- His temple in which He desires to dwell. (1 Corinthians 3:16)
- His Church (His bride) to reign with Him for eternity. (Revelation 19:7; Ephesians 5:25-27)

None of this can be accomplished in isolation. All of this requires unity.

Ephesians 4 doesn't say, "Try to think alike"; it says, "Be united in the Spirit." Unity doesn't mean uniformity, but harmony. And that harmony comes only from the Spirit.

The unity of the body of Christ is visible evidence of the Kingdom of God. God doesn't call us only to believe in Him, but to live in Him and with Him, as one.

The final question isn't: Are we together? But: Are we united in the same Spirit?

Because only the Holy Spirit can truly make us ONE: with one heart, one purpose, and one glorious hope.

Application:

Are you someone who strives and does everything possible to remain united in the Spirit with other believers?

How do you understand that, just as every cell in a body is necessary for that body to be one and function harmoniously, in the same way the body of Christ needs us to be one in the Spirit in order to exist, function, and have purpose?

If you were to take a qualitative assessment of the fruit of the Spirit in you, how would you rate yourself? How are you doing in love, patience, humility, self-control, etc.?

Prayer

Father, thank you for calling me to a glorious hope for the future. Thank you for making me in your image and likeness. Thank you for determining in your perfect design that loneliness has no place in me. In a confession of faith, I bind myself and unite with your Spirit. I do not want to live my life in solitude, apart from you. I understand that if I want a life united with your Spirit then I must be united with what your Spirit unites with: your church. I renounce the belief that what produces unity in me with others is chemistry, that it feels good, that others live and act according to what I like, but rather that I unite with them in one spirit: your Spirit. Lord, manifest your unity in me, and help me to live in unity with others. I want you to be the one who unites me with my brothers and sisters in faith, with my pastors, and with the vision you have placed in the church to which you have brought me. Teach me to live in unity in your Spirit also with my brothers in faith who think differently, who gather in other churches, and who have different assignments. Holy Spirit, I join in your movement, and I ask that you use me to strengthen the unity of the Spirit in the church so that others may see and believe, and know you; the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you sent. In Jesus' name. Amen!