

Projecting and Protecting the Unity of the Church

Rooted in 1 Peter 1:22–23, the course explores the theological foundation, spiritual vitality, and practical expressions of church unity.

Each session engages Scripture to address critical aspects of Christian community: the divine origin of unity, the responsibilities of fellowship, the role of every believer in ministry, and the shared calling to mission and mutual care.

Core Text: 1 Peter 1:22–23

Course Content: <https://tinyurl.com/Call2Unity>

Week 1: The Call to Unity

Text: 1 Peter 1:22–23

Objective: Explore unity as a divine mandate flowing from our spiritual rebirth.

Key Themes: Obedience, purification, sincere love.

Discussion:

- What does it mean to "purify your soul"?
- How is love the fruit of obeying the truth?

Application: Cultivate earnest love as a sign of unity.

Week 2: The Source of Unity

Text: John 17:20–23

Objective: Understand unity as rooted in the Trinity and Christ's prayer.

Key Themes: Unity as divine witness.

Discussion:

- How is Christian unity missional?

- What does oneness in the Trinity teach us?

Application: Reflect on how your local church reflects divine unity.

Week 3: Threats to Unity

Text: 1 Corinthians 1:10–17

Objective: Recognize and resist division in the body.

Key Themes: Factions, pride, misplaced loyalty.

Discussion:

- What are the modern equivalents of "I follow Paul"?
- How do theological camps help or hurt unity?

Application: Practice humility in theological disagreements.

Week 4: Fellowship as Covenant

Text: Acts 2:42–47

Objective: Fellowship is commitment, not convenience.

Key Themes: Shared life, devotion, joy.

Discussion:

- How did the early church live out unity?
- How can we reclaim covenant fellowship today?

Application: Commit to intentional community rhythms.

Week 5: Forgiveness and Restoration

Text: Matthew 18:15–20

Objective: Biblical conflict resolution strengthens unity.

Key Themes: Reconciliation, peacemaking.

Discussion:

- Why does Jesus place such emphasis on private resolution?
- What is the role of the church in accountability?

Application: Practice direct and grace-filled confrontation.

Week 6: Every Member a Minister

Text: Ephesians 4:11–16

Objective: Ministry is the shared responsibility of all.

Key Themes: Growth, maturity, mutual edification.

Discussion:

- What gifts are present in your church?
- How can they be better mobilized?

Application: Take ownership of your ministry contribution.

Week 7: Servant Leadership

Text: Mark 10:42–45

Objective: Model leadership after Christ's humility.

Key Themes: Power inverted, greatness redefined.

Discussion:

- How does Jesus redefine leadership?
- How can leaders guard against control and pride?

Application: Serve others in ways that go unseen.

Week 8: Empowering Others

Text: 2 Timothy 2:1–2

Objective: Empowerment builds generational unity.

Key Themes: Faithful transmission, discipleship.

Discussion:

- Who has invested in your faith?
- Who are you investing in?

Application: Identify and mentor a younger believer.

Week 9: Shared Mission

Text: Matthew 28:18–20

Objective: The Great Commission unites us in purpose.

Key Themes: Global vision, local action.

Discussion:

- How does mission unify the church?
- Where are you currently on mission?

Application: Partner with others in outreach.

Week 10: Stewarding the Body

Text: Romans 12:3–8

Objective: Honor each member's contribution.

Key Themes: Gifts, humility, interdependence.

Discussion:

- How do we balance humility and calling?
- What causes "gift envy" in the church?

Application: Affirm someone else's gift this week.

Week 11: Bearing One Another's Burdens

Text: Galatians 6:1–5

Objective: Unity thrives where empathy is practiced.

Key Themes: Responsibility, compassion, restoration.

Discussion:

- What keeps us from helping others spiritually?
- How can we make space for burden-bearing?

Application: Intentionally support a struggling believer.

Week 12: Projecting and Protecting Unity

Text: Colossians 3:12–17

Objective: Clothe the church in love.

Key Themes: Forgiveness, peace, gratitude.

Discussion:

- What are the garments of unity?
- How does the Word shape communal identity?

Application: Create a personal commitment plan to protect unity.