# Teaching Guide: Projecting and Protecting the Unity of the Church

**Week 2: The Source of Unity**

**Text**: John 17:20–23

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

## Sidebar: Trinitarian Authority and Spheres of Dominion (Adapted from *The Truth Project*)

**Summary:** This teaching from *Focus on the Family’s The Truth Project* explores how the character of God—especially as revealed in the Trinity—shapes human institutions. Each social structure reflects God’s authority and relational unity.

### 🕊️ The Trinity as a Model

* **Unity and Diversity**: The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are distinct, yet fully one. This divine relationship is the pattern for all social and institutional life.
* **God’s Sovereignty**: All spheres of life derive their structure and authority from God’s design, not from human invention.

“The Triune God embodies in Himself the ultimate resolution of the one and the many.” – Dr. Del Tackett

### ⚖️ The Six Spheres of Dominion

These represent domains where God’s authority is displayed and delegated to humans:

1. **Family** – Reflects intimacy and generational legacy.
2. **Labor/Work** – Stewardship of creation and productivity.
3. **Church** – Spiritual care and moral leadership.
4. **State** – Civil justice and protection of the innocent.
5. **Community** – Social interaction, culture, and charity.
6. **God-Man Relationship** – The heart of worship and truth.

Each of these should remain in their **proper boundaries** while working harmoniously—like the unity within the Trinity.

### 📌 Application to Unity in the Church

* **Respect Boundaries**: Avoid overreach of one sphere into another (e.g., the state controlling the church).
* **Mirror God’s Character**: Promote unity through distinct roles working together.
* **Guard Truth**: As in the Trinity, truth flows from relationship and love.

### 🧭 Worldview Compass (Visual Summary)

A compass helps us evaluate all of life through God’s truth:

* **North (Theology)** – Who is God?
* **South (Anthropology)** – Who is man?
* **East (Ethics)** – What is right?
* **West (Sociology)** – How should we live together?

A compass with different words

AI-generated content may be incorrect.

Each point aligns with God’s character and design, with the **God-Man relationship** at the center, anchoring every other sphere.

**Reference**:

* *The Truth Project* by Focus on the Family (Dr. Del Tackett)
* Leader’s Guide and study notes available at [focusonthefamily.com](https://www.focusonthefamily.com)