

I. Because of the objective reality of the gospel

- A. Premise: the reality of the gospel
- B. Encouragement in Christ (Romans 12:1; 15:30; 16:7; 1 Corinthians 1:10)
- C. Comfort from love
- D. Participation in the Spirit
- E. Affection and sympathy (Philippians 1:8; see also Exodus 34:6; Psalm 25:6; 86:15; Romans 12:1; 2 Corinthians 1:3)

II. We are called to unified pursuit of the progress of the gospel

- A. Paul's personal appeal: "Complete my joy!"
- B. By being of the same mind
- C. Having the same love (see Philippians 1:9)
- D. Being in full accord and of one mind
- E. The goal of the church: progress of the gospel (Philippians 1:5, 7, 12, 14-18, 27)

III. The kind of thinking that leads to unity

- A. Do nothing (literally just nothing! out of rivalry or conceit)
- B. Nothing from self-seeking motives!
- C. Nothing from pretentiousness!
- D. Instead: Humility (see Isaiah 5:15; Zephaniah 2:3; 2 Samuel 22:28; Psalm 10:17; 25:18; Ephesians 4:2; 1 Peter 5:5; Colossians 3:12)
- E. Counting others more significant than yourselves

IV. The kind of action that leads to unity

- A. Don't just look out for yourself
- B. Look out for the interests of others

V. Unity for the sake of the gospel

- A. The goal comes first
- B. Humility is a waste of time
- C. The goal is the means
- D. Get your eyes off your own feet and fix them on Christ (Matthew 14:29; Philippians 2:5-11)