

Unity: A Matter of Christ Likeness

Description

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Romans 15:1-13

Unity: A Matter of Christ Likeness—sounds like a good idea. It is much more than hollow words from a mere platitude. As stated in Paul's instruction to the Roman Christians, it takes a great deal of work—spiritual discipline, even to the point of self-denial to invest oneself in the lives of others above and beyond her or his own interests. It is a renunciation of a person's own pursuits in favor of the needs and interests of others.

But we are not left to our own devices to bring about unity within the Christian community. God gives us the endurance and encouragement to have the same mind-set and attitude toward each other as Christ had. And this unifying in mind and spirit is not condescension on the part of those who have many attributes, nor is it an entitlement on the part of those whose attributes may be fewer in number or lesser in quality. This unity is for the specific purpose of glorifying the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ with one mind and one voice—a collective articulation of praise without regard for status, position, or personal power.

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