

Unity In Christ

Description

[RG AUDIO 120216](#)

John 17:20-26

Some 2.3 billion people—are church members: affiliated with 4.7 million local congregations representing 45,000 denominations.* Jesus' prayer "that all of them may be one" seems impossible until we understand the type of unity He prayed for.

This unity is the glory of our shared life in Christ: "Father, just as you are in me and I am in you. May they also be in us so that the world may believe that you have sent me" (v. 21). This is a life characterized by mutual indwelling: a sharing of the quality and purpose of life. This is perhaps most clearly exemplified in the ideal marriage bond (Ephesians 5:31). Such a shared life reorganizes decision making; it is no longer "I" but "we." It redirects energies toward fulfilling a mutual will. Its highest goal is to honor the beloved by preserving the sanctity of that covenant.

Where Christ's disciples abide in Him, they are truly one and He is glorified.

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