

## **Thinking Correctly about Unity**

*Philippians 2:1-4*

**Big Idea:** Christian unity is God's high calling for His Church.

- I. **Christian unity is the spiritual result of being "in Christ." (2:1)**
  - A. It should be as regular as Jesus Christ's constant encouragement to His Church.
  - B. It should be as regular as Jesus Christ's constant love for His Church.
  - C. It should be as regular as the Holy Spirit's constant fellowship within His Church.
  - D. It should be as regular as Jesus Christ's constant sympathetic affections for His Church.
  
- II. **Christian unity is the spiritual result of a mutual mindset. (2:2)**
  - A. This mindset shares the same joy.
  - B. This mindset shares the same love.
  - C. This mindset shares the same goals.
  
- III. **Christian unity is the spiritual result of a humble mindset. (2:3-4)**
  - A. True humility does not tolerate selfish ambition or "empty glorying" in oneself.
  - B. True humility focuses on others instead of on self-exaltation.
  - C. True humility reflects the example of Jesus Christ. (2:5-11)

### **Application**

- Unity is not simply an option for Christians. Unity is God's high calling for His children!
  - Disunity flourishes when a humble focus on Jesus Christ is displaced by a prideful focus on selfish ambition.
1. **A unified local church is a humble local church.**  
Are you living humbly?
  2. **A unified local church is a loving local church.**  
Are you living lovingly?
  3. **A unified local church is a joyful local church.**  
Are you living joyfully?
  4. **A unified local church is an obedient local church.**  
Are you living obediently?