



Sunday, April 8, 2018

A QUIET COMMITMENT:

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — “*Be still, and know that I am God*” (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — “*to obey is better than sacrifice*” (1 Samuel 15:22)

“Our Walk in Harmony” (Part 1)

I. Introduction—Our Commitment to Biblical _____

Having **Biblical unity** speaks of having the *same mindset* in pursuing the *same mission*.

Philippians 2:2 Fulfill ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.

1 Corinthians 1:10 Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our **Lord Jesus Christ**, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

Paul’s pleading is not for the removal of *diversity* but the removal of *division*.

II. The _____ of Biblical Unity (James 4:1-10 / 1 Peter 3:8-9)

A. Our VILLAIN of Unity— _____ (James 4:1-10)

1. The _____ (v. 1)

Ephesians 2:3 “Among whom also we all had our conversation [*way of life*] in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling [*indulging*] the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others.”

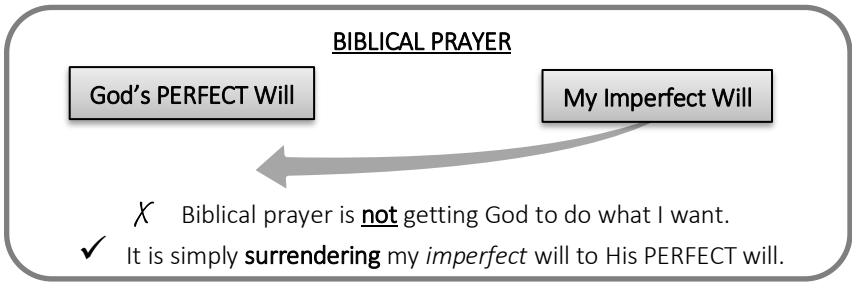
Proverbs 13:10 “Only by pride cometh contention: ...”

2. The _____ (v. 2-5)

a. Frustrated _____ (v. 2)

James says that this discontentment/ frustration is “*because ye ask not.*”

b. Faulty _____ (v. 3)



How can I have an effective prayer life? We must learn what the Bible says about it and then be obedient to it.

c. Failed _____ (v. 4-5)

Cf. 1 John 2:15-17

3. The _____ (v. 6-10)

a. The _____ of humility—“*God gives grace to the humble*” (v. 6)

God is powerful _____ the proud but He is powerful for the humble.

b. The _____ of humility (v. 7-9)

i. _____ to God (v. 7)

ii. Communion with God (v. 8a)

iii. _____ of Sin (v. 8b)

iv. Devotion to God (v. 8c)

v. _____ over sin (v. 9)


c. The _____ of humility—“*He shall lift you up*” (v. 10)

Cf. Psalm 40:1-3

Point of examination: Our walk in harmony is vital to our effectiveness in pursuing our mission, both individually and corporately. *Consider your own heart before the Lord.*

Q: Are there **ruling lusts** that are hindering you from contributing to the Biblical unity of the church family?

What is my next step? Please consider doing the questions on the back of this page.

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What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (**Put OFF SIN**)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (**Renew your mind**)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?
 - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (**Renew your mind**)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God, ... (**Put ON CHRIST**)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must **I** demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will **I** most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: *Supremely love GOD,
Sacrificially love others
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!*