



THE WORD *Alive*

The Preaching Ministry of
Ashley River Baptist Church

THE GIFT OF UNITY ROMANS 15:1-6

Rom 14:1 Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters.

Rom 15:1 We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. **2** Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. **3** For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: "The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me." **Rom 15:4** For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. **5** May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, **6** so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I. GOD'S PRINCIPLE OF UNITY

1. Unity in diversity is beautiful

How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity! *Psalms 133:1*

2. Unity is not uniformity

3. We can't create unity—we can only maintain it

Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Ephesians 4:3

II. MY PROMOTION OF UNITY

I promote the unity of my church when I:

1. Support weaker believers

Brothers, if someone is caught in a sin, you who are spiritual should restore him gently. But watch yourself, or you also may be tempted. *Galatians 6:1*

2. Seek to please others—not myself

3. See the unselfish example of Jesus

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:2

4. Accept the Bible as my source of authority

All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness ... *II Timothy 3:16*

5. Pray for unity within my church

"I in them and you in me. May they be brought to complete unity to let the world know that you sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me."

John 17:23

6. Join with others in praising God

Glorify the Lord with me; let us exalt his name together.

Psalms 34:3