

AS ONE IN THE SPIRIT OF FAITH – AS ONE WE LOVE  
EMIC- MENS MINISTRY BREAKFAST 9-17-22

1. Introduction- Theme Song (They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love)

(John 13:34-35) 34 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.- 35“By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.”

**They'll Know We Are Christians** (also known as *"They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love"* or *"We Are One in the Spirit"*) is a **Christian hymn** written in the 1960s<sup>l</sup> by then-Catholic priest, the late Fr. Peter Scholtes. It is inspired by John 13:35 The title of the hymn *They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love* originates in a phrase that **non-believers** used to describe Christians believers of **early Church**: "Behold, how they love one another."

**Lyrics:**

WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT, WE ARE ONE IN THE LORD. WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT, WE ARE ONE IN THE LORD. AND WE PRAY THAT ALL UNITY MAY ONE DAY BE RESTORED. AND THEY'LL WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE BY OUR LOVE, YES THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE.

WE WILL WALK WITH EACH OTHER, WE WILL WALK HAND IN HAND, WE WILL WALK WITH EACH OTHER, WE WILL WALK HAND IN HAND HAND. AND TOGETHER WE WILL SPREAD THE NEWS THAT GOD IS IN OUR LAND. AND THEY'LL WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE, BY OUR LOVE YES THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE.

ALL PRAISE TO THE FATHER WHO MAKES ALL THINGS DONE AND ALL PRAISE TO CHRIST JESUS, HIS ONLY SON, AND ALL PRAISE TO THE SPIRIT WHO MAKES US ONE. AND THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE, BY OUR LOVE, YES THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS BY OUR LOVE.

2. PRAYER

3. QUOTE ON UNITY /SCRIPTURE

- Group Activity (Which way is North)
- More than ever before, God is calling His church to unity. Streams and anointings coming together for this latter day harvest.
- “New administrative anointings to facilitate the move of God as it involves the revival capital of the world.” – Pastor George Pearsons

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**Excerpt from Bro. Kenneth Copeland...** <https://www.kcm.org/read/faith-to-faith/03/23>

If you know how to listen to the voice of God, you can hear Him calling throughout the Body of Christ today. He is calling for unity. He is calling us to lay down our disagreements and come together in preparation for Jesus' return.

Just the thought of that scares some believers. "How can I unify with someone from another denomination?" they say. "I'm not going to give up my doctrines and agree with theirs just for unity's sake!"

What they don't realize is this: scriptural unity isn't based on doctrine.

Winds of doctrine, according to Ephesians 4:14, are childish. Winds of doctrine don't unify.

They divide and blow people in every direction. The Word doesn't say anything about us coming into the unity of our doctrines. It says we'll come into the unity of the *faith*.

In the past, we've failed to understand that and tried to demand doctrinal unity from each other anyway.

"If you don't agree with me on the issue of tongues," we've said, "or on the timing of the Rapture...or on the proper depth for baptismal waters, I won't accept you as a brother in the Lord. I'll break fellowship with you."

But that's not God's way of doing things. He doesn't have a long list of doctrinal demands for us to meet. His requirements are simple. First John 3:23 tells us what they are: *to believe on the Name of His Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another.*

Once you and I come to a place where we keep those requirements and quit worrying about the rest, we'll be able to forget our denominational squabbles and come together in the unity of faith. We'll grow so strong together that the winds of doctrine won't be able to drive us apart.

When that happens, the devil's going to panic because the unity of the faith of God's people is a staggering thing. It's the most unlimited, powerful thing on earth.

Right now all over the world, the Spirit is calling the Church of the living God to unite. Hear Him and obey, and you can be a part of one of the most magnificent moves of God this world has ever seen.

- Ephesians 4:13 (NLV) "This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God's Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up

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to the full and complete standard of Christ." What is this Standard. Loving Him and loving each other AS ONE!

- You cannot truly love people and not Love God and you cannot Love God and not help but loving people. God is about people and so we must be about people. That's what the true message of the Cross was about. It was about you and me. John 3:16 (For God so loved, that HE GAVE)
- You cannot truly live up to the measure that that is described in Ephesians 4 without first receiving Christ Jesus. By His Spirit He is the one that helps Live the life that we will be covering today. Living in the Fullness of HIM (Acts 17:28) "For in him we live, and move, and have our being;"
- IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE A TRUE MOVE OF God (REVIVAL) without unity and the only way we can be in unity. Coming Together is not enough, we must be in agreement
- Open up your Bibles to (TOGETHER AS ONE SCRIPTURE) John 17 1:23 Prayer of Jesus

4. ANALOGY OF WATER AND WATER -One with Christ(scripture Reference)

- **ONE IN CHRIST / WHEN WE WERE OR BECOME SAVED SCRIPTURE** - 1 Corinthians 6:17 But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him.
- **John 17:20-23** - "I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.
- **You are not your own-** 1st Corinthians 6:19 *Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,*
- **Romans 8 1:39** *There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ...*

5. ONE WITH GOD, ONE WITH EACH OTHER / WALKING IN LOVE

**The Greatest Commandment**

- **Deuteronomy 6:5** *And you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your strength.* This is Repeated three more times in the Gospels by Jesus in (Mat 22:37 Jesus said unto him Thou shalt Love the Lord thy God with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. Mark 12:30 / Luke 10:27)

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- **John 14:15-16** *“If you love Me, keep My commandments. 16. An I will pray the Father and he shall give you another comforter that he may abide with you for ever. This is the Person of The Holy Spirit*
- "It is impossible to have true spiritual unity without the work of the Holy Spirit at work in our life."

“One step two wards self sufficiency is a step away from God .”

- If we are divided and self sufficient we could never experience a genuine move of the spirit.

**People : Matt 22:** *And the second is like unto it thou shalt love thy neighbor as thy self*

**Matt 22:40:** *On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.*

**John 21:15-17 15** *So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon, son of Jonah,[a] do you love Me more than these?”*

*He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.”*

*He said to him, “Feed My lambs.”*

**16** *He said to him again a second time, “Simon, son of Jonah,[b] do you love Me?”*

*He said to Him, “Yes, Lord; You know that I love You.”*

*He said to him, “Tend My sheep.”*

**17** *He said to him the third time, “Simon, son of Jonah,[c] do you love Me?” Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, “Do you love Me?”*

*And he said to Him, “Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You.”*

*Jesus said to him, “Feed My sheep.*

**Back to union with eachother. / Walking in love**

- Scripture Reference Hebrews 13:1 ...
- *What is Brotherly Love ...Narrow focus ... Love between brothers in a family / or fellow brothers neighbors / this is paticular to the Christian ... This is not just male focus / ALL PEOPLE ... Brotherly Love ... Specific Love for one another*
- **What Hinders us to Love- The Opposite of Love:** If we are going to persevere in this brotherly love amid adversity, we need to know what the problem is. What impedes brotherly love? What derails it? What suffocates it? selfishness.
- When we oppose it. The love of self will suffocate a love for others.
- **QUOTE:** “When someone thinks more of himself than he ought, he will love others less than he ought.”
- The First Sin was that which is the opposite of Who God is / Selfishness that which impedes our progress in holiness. It is to be focused on, preoccupied with, in love with, concerned with—self. It is the characteristic of a heart that is turned inward upon itself. We love self, preserve self, honor self, serve self and defend self.
- Selfishness is actually self-worship. Anything we elevate above God and His commands is what we worship. So, if we don’t obey God’s commands because we don’t like how it will make us feel or look, or because we just don’t want to—then we have identified our selfishness.
- What does this look like in the church ?

**1. Isolation** – We were created for fellowship. First and foremost for God and for each other. Regrettably some Christians do not make the Lord's Day gathering a high priority. What's more, some have very little contact with other believers during the week. It is very difficult to love other people when we are not with them. This also reveals a selfishness that we know suffocates brotherly love: "Whoever isolates himself seeks his own desire." ([Prov. 18:1](#)). Gathering vs assembling

**2. Disengagement.** When we are with our brothers and sisters, we must be present with them. It is not enough to physically be there; we must actually *be there*. In order to help fulfill the heart and mandate work in the church, we must be present not only physically but mentally, emotionally and most importantly—spiritually. Are you present with your church family?

**3. Superficiality.** When we love others, we are to be helping them to become more like Jesus Christ. If we are superficial, and by this I mean talking about all kinds of surface items, we will never get to the matters of the heart, the stuff that really matters. Superficiality will prevent the type of redemptive love that irritates (in the right sense) our sinful preoccupation with ourselves. Don't be superficial, be real, be intentional. Care enough to go the extra mile.

**4. Unresolved conflict.** When people have something against a brother or sister and they do not deal with the problem, it creates a wedge in the relationship. Unresolved conflict builds walls in relationship. Each day that passes is another brick in the wall of separation. When we do not deal with conflict, we have to understand that we are neither loving God nor are we loving our brothers. We are not loving God because we refuse to obey His commands, and we are not loving our brother or sister because we do not care enough about holiness in their lives to actually speak with them about it. I am sure you can see how this is self-worship instead of God worship. **Matthew 18:15**"If another believer sins against you, go privately and point out the offense. If the other person listens and confesses it, you have won that person back.

**5. Gossip.** This is talking about someone behind their back rather than going and talking to the person. Oftentimes it is the defaming of the character by spreading lies about them. With gossip, the heart bent in on itself attempts to rid itself of any competition by cutting other people down with their tongues. Instead of speaking the truth in love, gossipers speak lies in pride.

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: Just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." ([John 13:34-35](#))

The one who gave everything to serve his family, even to his own death, calls us to reflect the same type of selfless, outward-looking love for his family, the church.

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6. QUESTIONS / GROUP DISCUSSION

1. As men why do we find it difficult sometimes to walk in unity and love?
  
2. On one hand unity and love is given by the Spirit, but on the other hand unity and love is something that we must work to maintain. What are some personal practices and disciplines that would serve to preserve unity and love in the church?
  
3. How can we as a church welcome and build more on unity and love? How can you contribute personally in these efforts?

7. Closing Discussion/ Question Review