

**PRESERVE THE UNITY**  
**Ephesians 4:1-6**

**INTRODUCTION**

- A. We are all familiar with the Biblical teaching of unity:
  - 1. John 17:20-23
  - 2. 1 Cor. 1:9-10
- B. We have tended to apply these Scriptures to doctrinal unity only.
  - 1. This morning let's use an acrostic to emphasize unity among ourselves.

**I. U-PLIFT ONE ANOTHER, Hebrews 3:12-13.**

- A. There are many ways to uplift:
  - 1. Compliment.
    - a. Paul's letters.
      - i. Phil. 1:3-5
      - ii. Same compliments at beginning of letter 1 Cor., Col., Thess., Tim.
    - b. Jesus' letters to the churches in Asia, Rev. 2 and 3.
  - 2. Express confidence, Phil. 1:6.
  - 3. Comfort.
    - a. Job 2:11-13.
      - i. Friends hear and sympathize and comfort.
      - ii. They weep with him, tear their robes, silence for 7 days.
    - b. 2 Cor. 1:3-6

**II. N-EEED ONE ANOTHER.**

- A. 1 Cor. 12:14-26 (esp. vss. 21-24a).
- B. Eph. 4:11-16
- C. Accountability to others, 1 Cor. 8:9-13.
  - 1. As a body, we depend upon each other.
  - 2. Let others know what you intend to do.

**III. I-NTIMATELY RELATE TO ONE ANOTHER.**

- A. Edify, Rom. 14:19.
- B. Encourage, Heb. 10:23-25.
- C. 2 Timothy 4:1-2
  - 1. Reprove – express disapproval.
  - 2. Rebuke – reprimand.
  - 3. Exhort – entreat.

**IV. T-RUST ONE ANOTHER.**

- A. Eph. 4:22-25 – the basis of all relationships.
- B. Don't assume the worst, 1 Cor. 13:5 (not provoked).
  - 1. The way to avoid this is to confront:
    - a. Mt. 5:22-24
    - b. Mt. 18:15

**V. Y-IELD TO ONE ANOTHER.**

- A. Phil. 2:1-4
- B. Rom. 14 (Discussion of strong and weak; not being a stumbling block.)
- C. Rom. 15:1-3