

Key Scripture:

Ephesians 1:21 Message
The church is Christ's body,
in which He speaks and acts, by which He fills everything with His presence.

Exhortation to live in unity.

1 Corinthians 1:10 NLT

I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church.

Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.

We choose unity over division.

✓ Conviction over Compromise

1 Thessalonians 1:5 NASB

for our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake.

✓ <u>Clarity</u> over Confusion

1 Corinthians 14:33 Message

When we worship the right way, <u>God doesn't stir us up into confusion</u>; <u>He brings us into harmony</u>. This goes for all the churches — no exceptions.

✓ **Commission** over Complacency

Mark 13:34-37 ERV

34 "It's like a man who goes on a trip and leaves his house in the care of his servants.

He gives each one a special job to do. He tells the servant guarding the door to always be ready. And this is what I am telling you now. 35 You must always be ready. You don't know when the owner of the house will come back. He might come in the afternoon, or at midnight, or in the early morning, or when the sun rises. 36 If you are always ready, he will not find you sleeping, even if he comes back earlier than expected.

37 I tell you this, and I say it to everyone: 'Be ready!"

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The Church

Living In Unity

Living in Unity...

1. Unity in Action.

Ephesians 4:1-5 NLT

1 Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. 2 Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. 3 Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. 4 For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future.

2. Unity in Belief.

1 Corinthians 15:1-5 NLT

Let me now remind you, dear brothers and sisters, of the Good News I preached to you before. You welcomed it then, and you still stand firm in it. 2 It is this *Good News that*saves you if you continue to believe the message I told you—unless, of course, you believed something that was never true in the first place.

- 3 I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me.

 <u>Christ died for our sins</u>, just as the Scriptures said. 4 <u>He was buried</u>,
 and <u>He was raised from the dead on the third day</u>, just as the Scriptures said.
 - **✓ Savior** Acts 4:12
 - ✓ Sin Romans 3:23, Romans 6:23
 - ✓ Salvation Ephesians 2:8
 - 3. Unity in Calling.

1 Peter 1:13-16 NIV

13 Therefore, prepare your minds for action; be self-controlled; set your hope fully on the grace to be given you when Jesus Christ is revealed. 14 As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. 15 But just as <u>He who</u> called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; 16 for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy."

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