

Our devotion today is an outline of the message at Belfield Baptist Church for May 16, 2021.

THE CHRISTIAN THREEFOLD RELATIONSHIP

John 15:12-17 OUR RELATIONSHIP TO ONE ANOTHER

"That they all may be one" was the prayer of our Lord for His followers (John 17:21) ***21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.*** As believers, we are closely related. There is a:

- 1. Oneness of Life: Each branch is possessed by the same sap (Spirit), and dependent on the same source. We are all part of the Family of God, born of the same Spirit, this makes up one big family.**
 - a. It does not matter about our race,**
 - b. It does not matter about our financial situation.**
 - c. It does not matter about who we are. Anybody that thinks they are better than someone else is not getting the same sap as the family of God.**

- 2. ONENESS OF LOVE: Verse 12: *This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you. To love one another as Christ loved us, we must follow the example:***
 - a. Unmerited,**
 - b. Unselfish, and**
 - c. Abiding.**

We love Him because He first loved us, so if His love is in us, we will not wait till we are loved before we love others.

We will go on loving one another because Christ's love is in us.

1 John 4:21: ²¹ And this commandment have we from him, That he who loveth God love his brother also.

We need to remember that loving one another is the universal mark of discipleship, (John 13:35) ³⁵ By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

Do we love one another? Look at: 1 John 2:9-10: ⁹ He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now. ¹⁰ He that loveth his brother abideth in the light, and there is none occasion of stumbling in him.

3. ONENESS OF FELLOWSHIP: (Verse 15) ¹⁵ Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of my Father I have made known unto you.

When we look at verse 14, we see that the verse talks about holy friendship: ¹⁴ Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you.

Again, in Matthew 12:50 we find this: ⁵⁰ For whosoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother. Is this not the point where we are different and know the secret of the Lord? Psalm 25:14: ¹⁴ The secret of the Lord is with them that fear him; and he will shew them his covenant.

4. ONENESS OF WORK: (Verse 16) ¹⁶ Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you, and ordained you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and that your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you.

We are chosen as God's Children to follow Christ in

Oneness of Life,

Oneness of Love

Oneness of Fellowship

Oneness of Work

Are we doing what God would have us to do here in this church, how about the ones in Facebook Land?

As we think about what is going on today in the world, it is necessary that we cleave

unto the Lord in all situations. As Christians, we need to make a special effort to be one strong family against Satan and his workers.

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