The Unity of the Spirit
Eph. 4:1-6

Introduction:
A. Division and dissension are a disgrace to the cause of Christ.
   1. Families cannot worship together.
   2. Neighbors cannot worship together.
B. Division and dissension are displeasing to God (John 17:20-23; Eph. 2:16; 1 Cor. 1:10).
C. Unity is possible if two conditions of our text are met:

Discussion:
I. A Sincere Desire for Unity.
   A. Want it enough to be patient with imperfections of brethren (v. 1-3)
      1. Without ignoring or condoning sin (Jas. 5:19-20).
      2. Without leaving sin undisciplined (1 Cor. 5).
   B. Want it enough to place unity above purely personal considerations.
      1. Personal speculations (2 Tim. 2:23).
   C. Want it enough deal firmly with division causers (Tit. 1:10; Rom. 16:17, 18)

II. A Solid Basis for Unity.
   A. Not unity based on desire alone — ecumenicalism.
   B. Not peace before purity (Jas. 3:17)
   C. But, unity “of the spirit” (cf. Eph. 2:17,18, 22)
      1. Based on Spirit’s revelation (Eph. 3:5-6).
      2. Based upon the “ones” revealed by the Spirit (vv. 4-6).
   E. Jesus did pray for unity based upon God’s word (John 17:17-21)

Conclusion:
A. Unity in Christ requires effort — “endeavoring.”
B. Unity in Christ requires truth.
C. Unity in Christ begins by being baptized into Christ (Gal. 3:27; 1 Cor. 12:13)