

ONE IN THE SPIRIT, ONE IN THE LORD

February 9,10, 2008

Written by Cheryl Acuna

“In essentials, unity in non-essentials, liberty .” - Pastor Welsh

Have each person in your group name the church denomination(s) they have attended in the past. What are some of the non-essentials that have caused division in a church or a relationship with another believer?



Read **John 17:20-26** and answer the following questions:

- 1) Who is Jesus praying for?
- 2) What is His prayer for them?
- 3) Why is it so important for the believers to be one in Christ? Who is watching the church and what is the result when believers are in unity?
- 4) What is our mission as stated by Christ in verse 23?
- 5) How does discord within the church damage the effectiveness of evangelism?
- 6) The personal prayer by Jesus in John 17 is for himself, his disciples and future believers (Did you know Jesus prayed for you in the Bible?). He is about to be arrested and crucified. Why do you think his final words were about the unity of all believers?

Read **Ephesians 4:1-6**

- 1) What word is repeated many times in these verses?
- 2) What areas of agreement do we have with all believers?

Application:

- Memorize I Corinthians 15:3,4 to help you remember the essentials of the Christian faith.
- Pray for the unity of Central Christian Church this week.
- Pick one missionary from this mission's weekend and make a commitment to pray for them daily or weekly.