

## **One Ephesians 4:4-7**

### **Introduction**

<sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. <sup>7</sup> But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

“One” occurs 7 times in verses 4-6, connected to each of the three Persons of the Trinity who are themselves in perfect unity. Our oneness reflects their oneness.

### **1. God the Spirit makes us one (body).**

One body

One Spirit

Our unity in the Spirit is real, but we must protect and maintain it. We can grieve the Spirit and disrupt the unity.

Ephesians 4:3

Eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

The Holy Spirit gives life to the members of the body so that work together as one rather

than as separate members. A dismembered body does not function. It is a tragedy.

Fruit of the Spirit—relational qualities like what we see in verse 2: humility, gentleness, patience (longsuffering), forbearance in love

1 Corinthians 12:4, 7

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit . . . . To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

1 Corinthians 12:11-13

<sup>11</sup> All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills. <sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

## **2. God the Son makes us one (faith).**

One hope—future certainty (that belongs to your call—remember verse 1 talks about walking worthy of your calling). We wait expectantly for His return.

One Lord—head over the church, the chief Shepherd

One faith—the body of truth we believe is centered in Jesus the Christ.

One baptism—the public identification with His believing people

1 Corinthians 12:5

There are varieties of service, but the same Lord.

### **3. God the Father makes us one (family).**

One God and Father

of all—His life

over all—His sovereignty

through all—His moving

in all—His dwelling

Referring to all Christians, not all people indiscriminately

1 Corinthians 12:6

There are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone.

Ephesians 4:7

But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.

Introduces how this divine unity becomes practical reality in the church family, as explained in the verses that follow our text.

Grace—unmerited favor of God makes it possible

To each one of us—we all have been given this grace and therefore have the responsibility to use it well for the unity of the church

God has treated us better than we deserve. We should treat our brothers and sisters in the same way.

According to the measure of Christ's gift—Christ was not stingy in giving us what He has. Our giving to others should be with lavish measurement, as well.

The verses that follow specify some of the gifts Christ has given for building up the body into loving unity (apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastor-teachers).

## **Conclusion**

We are one.

1. God the Spirit makes us one (body).
2. God the Son makes us one (faith).
3. God the Father makes us one (family).