

## Day 1: Unity - The Basis

“Now I exhort you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you all agree and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be made complete in the same mind and in the same judgment.”  
1 Corinthians 1:10 (NASB95)

In recent years, opera superstars Jose Carreras, Placido Domingo, and Luciano Pavarotti have enjoyed singing together. They’ve done it frequently, but prior to their first performance, the three world-class tenors had never sung together on one stage. The November 1994 issue of Atlantic Monthly reported that prior to their performance in Los Angeles, a journalist tried to press the issue of competitiveness between the three men. They quickly disarmed him, “You have to put all of your concentration into opening your heart to the music,” Domingo said, “you can’t be rivals when you’re together making music.”

God has called us as His children to “make beautiful music together.” Let’s pray that God will protect and prosper the unity of our church family!

•**Scripture Reading:** Acts 4:1-16

•**Prayer Focus:** Pray that our unity will be evidenced by all of our church family participating in the MCP offering on September 10. Ask the Lord to strengthen our unity around our vision as a church.

## Day 2: Unity - The Beginning

“Being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.”  
Ephesians 4:3 (NASB95)

When signing the Declaration of Independence, Benjamin Franklin was reported to say “We must all hang together, else we shall all hang separately.” We really do need each other.

Mark Twain said, “It is amazing what can be done if no one minds who gets the credit.”

Lyndon B. Johnson said, “There are no problems we cannot solve together, and very few what we can solve by ourselves.”

There is one word that should be ever present in the hearts and minds of God’s people: the word “together.” God has called us to work together, pray together, study together, worship together, cry together, and laugh together. The list could go on and on! The Lord has also called us to obey together. God has designed for His people to be “together.” The beginning of our togetherness must be based on our desire and willingness to live in obedience to the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus said “You are my friends if you do what I command you” (John 15:14). For God’s people to be “together” we must begin on a personal level by committing to a life of obedience.

•**Scripture Reading:**

Romans 16:1-18 & Ephesians 4:1-6

•**Prayer Focus:** Pray for our church family to be obedient to the Lord’s leading in each of our lives as we seek to fulfill His vision for our church. Ask the Lord to give you a desire to walk in obedience and then ask Him what He wants you and your family to give to the MCP offering.

## Day 3: Intimacy - Maturity

“But speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ”  
Ephesians 4:15 (NASB95)

Charles Simpson tells about meeting a young man who dives for exotic fish for aquariums. The young man said one of the most popular aquarium fish is the shark. He explained that if you catch a small shark and confine it, it will stay a size proportionate to the aquarium. Sharks can be six inches long yet fully matured. But if you turn them loose in the ocean, they grow to their normal length of eight feet.

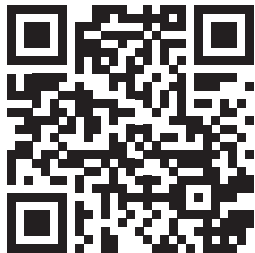
God designed you to grow to full maturity, becoming everything He intended for you to be. Maturity is a process. To reach maturity, you cannot confine your life to the safety of small surroundings. Through the exercise of your faith in every area of life, you are stretched and developed. Spiritual maturity involves time, experience, and persistence. In The Last Days Newsletter, Leonard Ravenhill tells about a group of tourists visiting a picturesque village who walked by an old man sitting beside a fence. In a rather patronizing way, one tourist asked, “Were any great men born in this village?” The old man replied, “Nope, only babies.” There are no instant heroes, whether in this world or in the kingdom of God. Growth takes time.

•**Scripture Reading:** Philippians 3:8-10

•**Prayer Focus:** Ask the Lord to show you areas where you have grown spiritually in your life in recent days or months. Identify an area of needed growth and ask Him to help you in that specific area.

Our vision is to ignite a movement of authentic followers of Christ by reaching 1000 people with the gospel and releasing 200 equipped leaders from the next generation for Church leadership by 2028.

For more information about Ignite and our path for sustaining, growing, and expanding our church’s ability to impact the world with the gospel, please visit [WhitesburgBaptist.org/Ignite](http://WhitesburgBaptist.org/Ignite).



## Day 4: Intimacy - Sound Doctrine

“In all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified”  
Titus 2:7 (NASB95)

By Michael Foust (Louisville, Kentucky; BP): “A nationwide recovery of biblical knowledge must begin in the local church -- and ultimately, the seminaries.” (Southern Baptist Theological Seminary President R. Albert Mohler Jr. said August 27.)

Mohler, preaching at the school’s fall convocation, said there is a “doctrinal deficit” of biblical knowledge among both churchgoers and American citizens. He quoted several polls, one of which found that only 9% of Americans could define the Great Commission, although 90% of them claimed to be Christians. In another poll, Mohler said, only two-thirds of churchgoers knew anything about the content of John 3:16.

Pointing to the polls showing the lack of biblical knowledge in America’s churches, Mohler said, “There is a certain knowledge that has to be known if Christianity is going to survive. The doctrinal deficit in the contemporary church is far below that minimal standard.”

•**Scripture Reading:**  
2 Timothy 4:1-5 & Colossians 1:9-10

•**Prayer Focus:** Pray for our church to be doctrinally sound and to raise up the next generation in sound Biblical teaching.

## Day 5: Intimacy - Authentic Love

“And He said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’”  
Matthew 22:37 (NASB95)

“As a young Marine stationed on Okinawa, I was drawn to the refreshing unpretentiousness of Bob Newkirk, a man ministering to military personnel with The Navigators. I dropped by his home late one evening to pay an unexpected visit. His wife met me at the door and said he wasn’t home. ‘He’s been under some stress lately,’ she said. ‘I think he may be down at his office. He told me he just wanted to get alone.’ Deciding to try the office, I caught the minibus in to Naha, the island capital. I made my way down a street and across an alley to his modest office. As I approached, I could hear singing— ‘Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace.’

It was Bob’s voice. I stood outside for a few moments, listening, as the simple hymn continued. I peeked in the window and saw a candle on a table, my friend on his knees, and not another soul around. He was spending time with the Lord, all alone. Bob never knew I came by that evening. But I got a glimpse of authentic Christianity that night—not piety on parade, but a man ‘in the shelter of the Most High.’” —(Charles Swindoll in Simple Faith)

•**Scripture Reading:** Mark 12:28-31

•**Prayer Focus:** Pray your love for Christ will grow deeper and richer each day. Ask the Lord to remind you daily of the gospel, the greatest expression of His love for you. Pray the gospel will motivate and ignite a passion for Christ in your life each day.



**PRAYER GUIDE**  
by Pastor Darryl Craft  
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