Notes:

Proverbs 17: 4 An evildoer listens to wicked lips; A liar pays attention to a destructive tongue.

Proverbs 26:20 For lack of wood the fire goes out, And where there is no whisperer, contention quiets down.

Sunday, January 13, 2013

“Keeping the Peace”

Ephesians 4:2-3

I. A diligent preservation of spiritual unity is important because of
   1. The v_________________ and j______________ of it.
   2. The ___________________ of disunity.
   3. Its effect on a church’s w__________________.
   4. Its effect on a church’s ____________________.

II. The Necessity for a diligent preservation of unity
   1. It is f______________ because we are all s__________________.
   2. It requires h______________ which is not natural to us.

III. The Pathway to a diligent preservation of spiritual unity
   1. Approach church-life to m________________, that is to
      ________________, not just to ________________.
   2. Be ____________________.
   3. R_________________ ________________ patience and
       forbearance with you.
   4. Repair hurts and tears as ________________ as ________________.
   5. ________________ _______ to those who can change things.
   6. Beware of the t______________.
   7. Don’t ________________ to evil r_________________.

[Notes:]

[PROVERBS 17: 4]
[PROVERBS 26:20]
Scripture References:

**Ephesians 4:1-6** Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing tolerance for one another in love, being diligent to preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.

**Psalm 133:1** Behold how good and pleasant it is for brother to dwell together in unity.

**John 6:63a** It is the Spirit who gives life.

**Ephesians 4:30a** Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God.

**I Thessalonians 5:19** Do not quench the Spirit.

**Matthew 5:8** Blessed are the peacemakers.

**James 4:1-2** What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members? You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel.

**Philippians 2:2-4** Make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

**Ephesians 4:32** Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you.

**Ephesians 5:1** Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children.

**Colossians 3:13** Bear with one another, and forgive each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so also should you.

**Ephesians 4:26-27** BE ANGRY, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not give the devil an opportunity.

**Matthew 18:15** If your brother sins, go and show him his fault in private; if he listens to you, you have won your brother.

**James 3:5-10** So also the tongue is a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things. See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, the very world of iniquity; the tongue is set among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the course of our life, and is set on fire by hell. For every species of beasts and birds, of reptiles and creatures of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by the human race. But no one can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God; from the same mouth come both blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way.

**Proverbs 11:13** He who goes about as a talebearer reveals secrets, But he who is trustworthy conceals a matter.

**Proverbs 16:27-28** A worthless man digs up evil, While his words are like scorching fire. A perverse man spreads strife, And a slanderer separates intimate friends.

**Proverbs 17:9** He who conceals a transgression seeks love, But he who repeats a matter separates intimate friends.

**Ephesians 4:29** Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear.