

THE ENEMY DIVIDES
You Have an Enemy #4
September 14, 2025

Big Idea: Fight disunity through healthy Christian _____. (John 17:9-11, 20-21)

Healthy Christian community is a _____ to the world.

HOW TO BUILD AND PRESERVE COMMUNITY

- 1. Fully devote to _____ and _____.**
(Luke 9:23-24)
- 2. Emphasize “_____” over “_____” in your relationships.**
 - **Exchange _____ for _____.**
(Phil. 2:3-4)
 - **Exchange _____ for _____.**
(Rom. 12:4-5)
- 3. Empathize with others by _____ well.** (James 1:19-20)
- 4. Prioritize _____ over _____.**
(Matt. 5:23-24)
 - **You must pass through _____ to get to reconciliation.**
 - **You must pass through _____ to get to reconciliation.**
 - **You must pass through _____ to finish reconciliation.**

DAILY REFLECTIONS ON RESISTING DIVISIVENESS

Monday: Read John 17. How many times did Jesus use the word “one”? What does oneness mean to you? Jesus asked God to protect it by His power (v. 11). What is the purpose of believers being “one” with God and each other? Read Matthew 19:3-6. What must happen in a marriage for a man and woman to become “one” and remain “one” for life. Relationships hold the world together and are worth any effort to protect. When we model this, it points the world to Jesus.

Tuesday: Read Acts 2. Christian community begins with devotion to Christ (v. 38-41). What else did these new believers devote themselves to? How did this change their lives? How did this affect people outside the church? When people see the gospel lived out in Christian community it draws many to Jesus and decreases division in the world one person at a time. Pray for this to happen in our community.

Wednesday: Read Acts 6-7. What similarities do you see between Stephen and Charlie Kirk? In Stephen’s day God was raising up a new generation of Christ followers (the apostles were the first generation). Do you think God is doing the same in our day? Read Acts 8:1-4. What happened to the church after Stephen was killed (v.4)? It exploded in growth!! Pray for revival in the church and spiritual awakening in our country.

Thursday: Read Philippians 2:3-4. How well are you living this out? Are you more selfish or selfless? Selfishness divides, and selflessness unites. What can you do in your most important relationships to focus more on “we” and less on “me”? Maybe you should begin with James 1:19-20 by listening well to gain understanding and empathy. What do you think?

Friday: Read Ephesians 4:25-32. Notice what unresolved anger does to us (v. 26-27). Have you given the devil a foothold in your life? Have you let disagreement drive a wedge in an important relationship? What does it do to the Holy Spirit when we tear people down instead of building them up? Is there anyone in your life with whom v. 31 applies? We must all obey the commands in v. 32 to build and preserve healthy Christian community. Seeking reconciliation is hard but it’s worth it!