

HOLY HARMONY

Week 61 | July 29, 2025

"May God, who gives this patience and encouragement, help you live in **complete harmony** with each other, as is fitting for followers of Christ Jesus."

Romans 15:5

God's goal for His people is **oneness**. First and foremost *with Himself*, but thereby also with <u>each other</u>. He wants us to be **completely unified** as we *live and work* for Him, knit closely together as we fight <u>the good fight</u> and run this race together. We are called to live in **holy harmony** with our brothers and sisters as a *testimony* to the <u>love of our Father</u> within us. It should be obvious, then, that the Enemy would seek to **destroy** that which is *precious to God*. This week let us pray and ask God to <u>protect</u>, <u>deepen</u>, and <u>strengthen</u> our **unity** by giving us a *oneness* of:

1. PURPOSE (John 17:20-23)

- a. NOTE: Unity stems most often from a common goal or motivation. The "why" behind what we do is what allows people from different backgrounds and upbringings to truly become one. This, by the way, is why intimate relationships between believers and unbelievers are doomed for failure and conflict, for the core driver of each is completely different by their very nature. The Enemy knows this fact and attempts to destroy the harmony of God's people by causing God's children to forget or wander from their true purpose in living: Glorifying God. (2 Corinthians 6:15; Colossians 1:16)
 - i. For Ex. "Dear Lord, thank You for calling us out for Your *glorious purpose*. Thank You for including us in these <u>grand plans</u> of Yours, for giving us a **goal** beyond *simple survival*. Remind us today, Lord, of the <u>common objective</u> we all have as Your followers. Pull us back, Father, to what **really matters** in this life and *keep us from stumbling* over the <u>inconsequential</u> by destroying all **schemes** of the Enemy meant to *divide us*. For this is <u>all about You</u>, and **not about us**."
 - 1. **REMEMBER:** A unified *purpose* leads to unified **priorities**. (<u>Matt. 6:33</u>)

2. PASSION (Colossians 3:14)

a. NOTE: Goals must be acted on if they are to be of any good to anyone. The passion to pursue our shared purpose stems from our internal love, love for the Father and for those created in His image. This is not some puppy love that unites us, for that kind of affection quickly fades and wanes. No, instead the passion that brings about unity and oneness among Christ's followers is the fiercest of fires and the strongest of desires, the kind of love that seems crazy to those not caught up in its fever. This is the type of love that covers a multitude of mistakes and overcomes the shrewdest of attacks.

(Philippians 2:2; 1 Peter 4:8; Proverbs 10:12)

- i. For Ex. "Lord God, thank You for Your passionate pursuit of us that stems out of Your love for this world and all of Your creation. Thank You for that crazy love which unites Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in all that You say and do. Grant Your followers that same type and level of zeal today, uniting us in our fiery pursuit of You and Your plans. Ignite a love in our hearts that is both infectious and harmonious, bringing Your people together like never before."
 - 1. **REMEMBER:** Loving *forgiveness* protects our **oneness**. (Col. 3:13-15)

3. PERSPECTIVE (1 Corinthians 1:10)

- a. NOTE: As we pursue **God's purpose** for our lives with a *passionate zeal*, even the most adamant of followers can <u>drift off course</u> if their **vision** is *clouded*. All it takes is the <u>slightest misalignment</u> to completely **derail** and **divide** a group of believers who are *running the race* of this life as hard as they can, so of course that's exactly what the Enemy strives to do. The key is keeping our eyes <u>fixed on Christ</u> and maintaining **His perspective** on all things. This helps to <u>prevent disunity</u> and keep us all *going in the same direction*. (Hebrews 12:1-2; Galtatians 5:7; 1 Corinthians 2:16)
 - i. For Ex. "Father God, thank You for giving us the mind of Christ at salvation, for granting us the ability and opportunity to see things from Your perspective. Guard us today against every diversion that attempts to lead us off track and cause division among Your people. Fix our gaze on Yourself, Lord, unifying our point of view with Your own in order to teach us to see clearly the path You want us to follow and keeping us far from the stumbling blocks of the Enemy."
 - 1. **REMEMBER:** *Distraction* always leads to **division**. (<u>Luke 10:40</u>)

Questions for Reflection:

- What do the **priorities** of your life reveal about your *purpose*?
 - If you have <u>drifted away</u> from your **true calling**, turn back now. It's so much easier to realign the earlier you catch yourself.
- Has bitterness or resentment sowed seeds of division in your relationships?
 - Look out for the <u>trap of offense</u>, it has taken out many **brothers** and **sisters** just like yourself.
- What distractions have begun to drive a wedge between you and others in your life?
 - Please, <u>let them go</u>. Our distractions are only **cheap counterfeits** to the *true desires* of our heart.