

## Church Unity...about what?

### **1. what you believe** - (Jesus and the Bible)

16 fundamental truths? 4 cardinal doctrines? 7 sacraments...

<sup>Matt 16</sup> - When Jesus and his disciples were near the town of Caesarea Philippi, he asked them, “What do people say about the Son of Man?”

<sup>14</sup> The disciples answered, “Some people say you are John the Baptist or maybe Elijah or Jeremiah or some other prophet.”<sup>15</sup> Then Jesus asked them, “But who do you say I am?”<sup>16</sup> Simon Peter spoke up, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”<sup>17</sup> Jesus told him:

Simon, son of Jonah, you are blessed! You didn’t discover this on your own. It was shown to you by my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> So I will call you Peter, which means “a rock.” On this rock I will build my church, and death itself will not have any power over it.

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John 1... In the beginning was the word...

2 Tim 3:16,17 All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness

Heb 4:12 For the word of God *is* living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

Ps 119: 9,11,105 How can a young man cleanse his way?

By taking heed according to Your word. Your word I have hidden in my heart,  
That I might not sin against You. Your word *is* a lamp to my feet  
And a light to my path.

2 Peter 1:20,21 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit

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## **2. How you live -**

**1 John 1:6-** If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not know the truth: <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, **we have fellowship one with another**, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin.

<sup>8</sup> If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

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### **Membership - Inclusive / Exclusive... elitist members of a club?**

**1 Cor 12**<sup>12</sup> The body of Christ has many different parts, just as any other body does. <sup>13</sup> Some of us are Jews, and others are Gentiles. Some of us are slaves, and others are free. But God's Spirit baptized each of us and made us part of the body of Christ...

<sup>24</sup> God put our bodies together in such a way that even the parts that seem the least important are valuable. <sup>25</sup> He did this to make all parts of the body work together smoothly, with each part caring about the others. <sup>26</sup> If one part of our body hurts, we hurt all over. If one part of our body is honored, the whole body will be happy. <sup>27</sup> Together you are the body of Christ. Each one of you is part of his body.

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Prov 6:16 There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and **a person who stirs up conflict in the community.**

Rom 16:17 -I urge you, brothers and sisters, to **watch out for those who cause divisions and put obstacles in your way** that are contrary to the teaching you have learned. **Keep away from them.**