

Ephesians Devotional Guide – Part 7

Exercise #1

John Stott concludes his commentary on Ephesians chapter 2 with the following comment:

I wonder if anything is more urgent today, for the honor of Christ and for the spread of the gospel, than that the church should be and should be seen to be, what by God's purpose and Christ's achievement it already is – a single new humanity.....a family of reconciled brothers and sisters who love their Father and love each other.....Only then will the world believe in Christ as Peacemaker. Only then will God receive the glory due to His name.

What is your reaction to Stott's words?

What is the relationship between our unity and the world's response to the Gospel?

What role do you think you could have in promoting stronger unity to our Church?

Exercise #2

Read Ephesians 4:1-3 and relate Paul's commands there to what we learned in Ephesians 2:11-18. What is the calling we have received? Why did Paul say we are to make efforts to keep unity and not create unity? Pray for God's power to obey the commands in verses 1-3.

Exercise #3

Commit to God in prayer those relationships in your life where you need to be reconciled to other Christians. Ask God to break down the walls that separate you. Ask God for greater compassion and understanding for the people involved. Ask God if there are steps you should be taking to help resolve conflicts.