



# KEEPING UNITY OF THE SPIRIT IN THE *Bond of Peace*



## **Ephesians 4:1-3 (NKJV)**

<sup>1</sup>I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, <sup>2</sup>with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup>endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

## **Introduction**

In the first three chapters of Ephesians, Paul has shown that the mystery of the gospel includes God bringing together two formerly alienated and hostile groups, the Jews and the Gentiles. He has made them into one new man, establishing peace (2:14-16). In Christ, both groups have access in one Spirit to the Father (2:18). Together, we are being built into a holy temple or dwelling place of God in the Spirit (2:21-22).

Paul states that a worthy walk involves all lowliness (humility), gentleness, longsuffering (patience), bearing (tolerance), and love. These are relational words applied as interpersonal relationships in the church.

The call to follow Christ through the gospel is also a call to grow in loving relationships with one another. The first and the second great commandments are linked (1 John 4:20).

## **1 John 4:20**

If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he has not seen?

Paul appeal to the church to walk in a manner worthy of the gospel by relating to one another in ways that preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Unity among believers is a crucial topic in the Bible. Jesus prayed for it just before He went to the cross.

## **John 17:20-23**

<sup>20</sup>"I do not pray for these alone, but also for those who will believe in Me through their word; <sup>21</sup>that they all may be one, as You, Father, are in Me, and I in You; that they also may be one in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me. <sup>22</sup>And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that they may be one just as We are one: <sup>23</sup>I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me."

Paul suffered for it as a prisoner of the Lord. He identifies himself as such for the sake of the truth; that the church is made up of Jews, Gentiles, slaves, and free men.

## **A. Called into Unity**

## **Romans 8:30**

Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

## **2 Timothy 1:9**

Who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began,

A godly conduct should match this calling.

## **B. Practice Unity**

Walking implies a continuous practice. Many just took some steps, but the Bible urges us to walk worthy of our calling. If you look closely on the words like lowliness (humility), gentleness, longsuffering (patience), bearing (tolerance), and love, these qualities cannot be applied when others treat you well. You only need patience and tolerance when someone is irritating you or being difficult to get along with. While it is easier just to avoid such difficult people, Paul's appeal that we practice these qualities implies that we are seeking to work through relational differences.

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**Rev. Dr. James C. Sy**  
Administrative Pastor



## Experience

A NEW LIFE  
IN CHRIST

**M**ake the most of the final days of this year by having a relationship with the Lord! This coming December 19-21, Thursday to Saturday, UCA students from Grade 5 to Grade 12 are about to encounter a life-changing experience in the Lord this Retreat 2024 at UCF Mt. Tabor Church Re-Creation Center. You may be one of them, too!

Away from the typical routine of your lives at home and in school, it's your time to know Jesus Christ, experience Him, and begin a new life in Him as your personal Lord and Savior. These three days are sure to be filled with meaningful sessions of learning the Word of God, giving praises and thanksgiving to Him, engaging fun games, and having fellowship with your schoolmates. Your parents are also invited to join this retreat.

Seize this opportunity and join us in this exciting discovery of God's great plans! Together let us know God and experience Him.

Sing and lift  
your praises to God

A never before experience of God's presence will be revealed to the students as they open their hearts to God's invitation. Through praise and worship, you may sing to the Lord and honor Him for all He has done.

Discover the truth of  
His word

The inspired Word of God has the power to speak of truth. Let God's Word find its way to your hearts as you seek the Lord your God in every session and group sharing.



*Small groups are conducted for students to raise questions and share their experiences.*

**Deuteronomy 29:29  
(KJV)**

The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.





## Feel His love like no other

As you seek the Lord in your life, experience the fellowship among other believers of Christ from your teachers to your classmates. Meeting and searching the Word together is one experience to be joyful with.



## Engage in fun activities

Meaningful group games and various activities that teach life lessons and wisdom are added to fill in the participants.



**STUDENTS AND PARENTS, WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? JOIN IN THE FUN AND COME WITH US THIS RETREAT 2024!**



**SEE YOU ON  
DECEMBER 19-21!**

**REGISTER TODAY!**

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Psalms 119:105  
(KJV)



# Knowing God THROUGH CHAPEL SERVICE

**U**nited Christian Academy (UCA) held its first Chapel Service for S.Y. 2024-2025 last November 28 at the UCA Auditorium. Students were all invited to come to know and discover the one and true God.

UCA welcomed all students who showed interest in discovering all things about God. Ms. Raena Christine Tabay had an interactive discussion with the students on its first topic of who God is by describing Him as the magnificent Creator and as an Almighty being. The chapel service is an avenue where students are taught of things about God and to help them build a relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ.

Students were encouraged to search within their hearts the questions they have as they seek God in their lives. Praise God for opening an avenue to bring souls to Christ!



## Panibagong buhay SA PANGINOONG HESUS

**I**sa pang mapagpalang araw ang ginanap noong nakaraang Linggo, Nobyembre 24, matapos makatanggap ng *water baptism certificate* ang ating mga kapatid na nagdesisyong magpabawtismo sa tubig sa harap ng mga saksi sa UCF Mt. Tabor Church.

Puno ng galak ang puso ng ating mga kapatid sa Panginoon matapos nilang magdesisyong sumunod sa ating Panginoong Hesus. Kaya naman ang buong panambahan ay nagalak sa isang espesyal na araw ng pagtanggap na ito.



2 Timothy 3:16  
(NKJV)

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.



IN-DEPTH STUDY

# Pagsunod sa Diyos

## AYON SA KANIYANG SALITA

Ilang makabuluhang aral muli mula sa Bibliya ang binigyang diin ni Rev. Dr. William Sy sa ginanap na ika-apat na In-Depth Study noong Nobyembre 29 sa UCF. Mt. Tabor Church Re-Creation Center.

Tinalakay ni Rev. Dr. Sy ang mga prinsipyong dapat na sinusunod ng mga anak ng Diyos habang nagpapatuloy sa pananampalataya sa Panginoong Hesus. Isa na rito ang araw-araw na pagiging tapat sa Panginoon sa lahat ng ating ginagawa. Bilang mga pinalaya na ng Panginoon mula sa kadiliman, tayo ay dapat na nagpapatuloy sa katotohanan ng Kaniyang Salita. Hindi lamang ito dapat na inaaral, ngunit ito ay dapat na isinasabuhay bilang pagtatanghal sa Panginoon sa buhay ng bawat isa. Dito ay pinaalala rin ang Salita ng Diyos mula sa Filipos 4:13, "Ang lahat ng ito'y magagawa ko dahil sa lakas na kaloob sa akin ni Kristo."

Dalangin ni Rev. Dr. Sy na magsilbing gabay ang nakalipas na mga naging aral sa patuloy na paglalakad ng mga manggagawa sa ating Panginoon.



**"The key to contentment is that God has given us, in our present circumstances, everything we need to remain victorious in Christ."**

**Rev. Dr. William Sy**

November 29, 2024

Panibagong repleksiyon mula sa Salita ng Diyos ang muling mananatili sa puso ng bawat nakakinig ng Kaniyang Salita. Kaya naman ang lahat ay mayroon muling babaunin sa kanilang patuloy na pagsunod sa ating Panginoong Diyos.

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

**JOHN 14:26  
(NKJV)**



## Keeping the...

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### Galatians 5:22-26

<sup>22</sup>But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. <sup>24</sup>And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup>If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. <sup>26</sup>Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

### C. Preserve Unity

Diligence implies a deliberate effort. It suggests that we are not to allow disunity (division) to flourish.

### Romans 14:19

Therefore let us pursue the things

which make for peace and the things by which one may edify another.

Peace is the quality that binds us all together.

### Matthew 5:9

Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God.

Jesus Christ is our peace. Because He is the Lord of our lives, we will enjoy peace between the body.

### Conclusion

When your feelings are hurt or you hurt someone else's feelings, remember that true children of God are called peacemakers.

He calls us to walk in a manner worthy of our calling as saints. We must practice these qualities that preserve unity. And, we must exert a lot of effort to work through problems in a godly manner.

## SERMON NOTES

Write the points to remember from the sermon as you seek God in your life.



**UCF FAMILY**  
*Christmas Celebration 2024*

**December 22, 2024 | 1:00 PM**  
UCF Mt. Tabor Church Re-Creation Center | Cabuyao, Laguna

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.  
**1 JOHN 4:7**

**REGISTER TO YOUR FELLOWSHIP LEADERS.**



**COME AND VISIT**

UCF Mt. Tabor Church and Re-Creation Center, where your spirit finds rest! Feel the cool breeze, bask under the sun, and appreciate the wondrous creations of the Lord. You and your loved ones will surely enjoy your day in this relaxing and peaceful place.

**NOW OPEN FOR**

- Church Activities
- School Retreats
- Company Gatherings
- Seminars & Events
- Family Reunions
- Team Building
- Special Events
- Outing/Getaway
- Staycation

**FOR INQUIRIES AND RESERVATIONS, CONTACT 0917-305-4929.**



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Purok 1, Brgy. Casile, Cabuyao, Laguna

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7-954-7527 (Globe)



**WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE**  
9:00 AM (Parañaque)

**SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE**  
3:00 PM (Cabuyao, Laguna)

**HOUSE OF PRAYER**  
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

**HOME BIBLE CHURCH & STUDY**  
Monday - Thursday  
Laguna and Cavite Areas



Scan these QR codes to watch the replays of the **UCF Sunday Worship Services.**



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