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2022: The Year of Christ Consciousness

How do I receive inward Peace?

Why Unity Should Matter to Christians Presented by Pastor Daren L. Barron

Sermon Notes from December 4, 2022

How do I receive inward Peace?

Answer: Your Spirit - Soul - Body is synced up with Holy Spirit.

Why Unity Should Matter to Christians

- > One of the greatest challenges for a believer is to be in communion with God, thus with self.
- ➤ The level of distractions and deceptions are great as many believers are prone to sync up with the spirit of the world instead of the Spirit of God.
- > The wrong communion destroys our inward peace causing us to trust in facts of the world instead of the truth of salvation in Christ.
- Unification of your spirit, soul and body directed by Holy Spirit needs Faith and begins inward peace within.

The pathway to inward Peace

John 17:10-26 New Living Translation

10 All who are mine belong to you, and you have given them to me, so they bring me glory. 11 Now I am departing from the world; they are staying in this world, but I am coming to you. Holy Father, you have given me your name; now protect them by the power of your name so that they will be united just as we are. 12 During my time here, I protected them by the power of the name you gave me. I guarded them so that not one was lost, except the one headed for destruction, as the Scriptures foretold. 13 "Now I am coming to you. I told them many things while I was with them in this world so they would be filled with my joy. 14 I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. 15 I'm not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. 16 They do not belong to this world any more than I do. 17 Make them holy by your truth; teach them your word, which is truth. 18 Just as you sent me into the world, I am sending them into the world. 19 And I give myself

as a holy sacrifice for them so they can be made holy by your truth. 20 "I am praying not only for these disciples but also for all who will ever believe in me through their message. 21 I pray that they will all be one, just as you and I are one—as you are in me, Father, and I am in you. And may they be in us so that the world will believe you sent me. 22 "I have given them the glory you gave me, so they may be one as we are one. 23 I am in them and you are in me. May they experience such perfect unity that the world will know that you sent me and that you love them as much as you love me. 24 Father, I want these whom you have given me to be with me where I am. Then they can see all the glory you gave me because you loved me even before the world began! 25 "O righteous Father, the world doesn't know you, but I do; and these disciples know you sent me. 26 I have revealed you to them, and I will continue to do so. Then your love for me will be in them, and I will be in them."

Why Unity Should Matter to Christians

- The Trinity is our model for unity (John 17:11).
- ➤ The Bible tells us that the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are in perfect harmony with one another. They are three in one and provide a picture of our unity as Christians.
- Jesus' last prayer is that we'd live in unity (John 17:21).
- ➤ Jesus' vision is that anyone who claims the name of Christ should have unity with other believers. In fact, John 17:21 tells us that our unity will lead to others placing their trust in Jesus.
- ➤ God gives us his glory, so we'll be unified (John 17:22).
- ➤ The purpose of God's presence in your life isn't to make you more opinionated and stubborn. It's to make you more loving. For the sake of unity, He gives His power and presence to anyone who lays aside secondary differences with other believers.
- ➤ Our unity is our greatest witness to unbelievers (John 17:23).
- ➤ The world won't be won until Christians are one. If unbelievers like what they see in us, they will listen to what we say.
- ➤ Baptism and communion are visible signs of unity (1 Corinthians 12:12-13, 10:16-17).
- ➤ Both baptism and communion are visual representations of the truth that we not only belong to Jesus but to one another as well. When we're baptized, we're laying aside our differences of race, nationality, and background to accept our common identity in Christ. Our unity is so important to the Lord's Supper that the Bible tells us not to partake of it if we're not unified.