

**Covenant Evangelical Reformed Church in Singapore – 2010 June Camp**  
**Rev. Daniel Kleyn**

**WE ARE ONE: (1) THE FACT OF IT**

**Introduction:**

1. It is clear from Ephesians 4 that the calling to maintain oneness (unity) is serious and urgent.
2. This calling and admonition is at the center of what we will be considering in our five speeches.

**WE ARE ONE: (1) THE FACT OF IT**

- I. The unity of the church is a reality.
    - A. It is certainly a reality in the church as the universal body of Christ. But it is also a reality in the church institute. This is clear from Ephesians 4:3, 5, 12.
    - B. Oneness/unity is not just something we wish we had in the church and among God's people. Nor is it simply something that will be a fact in heaven. It already exists as a reality on earth.
  - II. Why unity is a reality.
    - A. The most fundamental reason is because unity is not a work of man, but the work of God. If it were the work and responsibility of man, it would never be established.
    - B. That it is God's work is clear from the many references in the doctrinal section of Ephesians (chapters 1-3) to the eternal decree of sovereign election. Eph. 1:4, 1:22-23, 2:19-22.
    - C. God chose the church to be Christ's body. Christ has one body. Eph. 4:4, 4:12, 4:15-16.
  - III. The principle of unity is Jesus Christ Himself.
    - A. We are one with each other because of our oneness with Jesus Christ. We are one because of all that we have in and through Him. We belong to the one family of God. Eph. 4:6. Rom. 8:29. Eph. 2:19.
    - B. Christ makes unity a reality. Christ spiritually unites believers to Himself and to each other. He does this through His Spirit, Who accomplishes it by means of the efficacious call. Eph. 4:1.
  - IV. Unity exists because of what we have in common with each other.
    - A. Our unity is not because of earthly things we share, but on account of the spiritual things we have in common. Some of these things are mentioned in Eph. 4:4-6.
    - B. We also have in common countless other things: (1) the same life; (2) the same purposes; (3) the same interests; (4) the same callings; (5) the same struggles; (6) the same enemies; etc.
    - C. It is foolish therefore not to seek fellowship with our fellow believers.
  - V. Unity is a gift we must treasure.
    - A. It is a wonderful gift.
      1. A costly gift – purchased through the death of the Son of God on the cross.
      2. A gracious gift – we do not deserve it.
      3. An eternal gift – we will possess it in all its fulness for ever.
    - B. Considering its great value, we should strive to maintain/protect/keep it. We may not be indifferent to this gift. We may not let it slip away or be destroyed.
    - C. How we should maintain it is what we hope to consider in our upcoming speeches.
- 

**Discussion Questions:**

1. Does the unity of the church become manifest in the universal body of Christ? If so, where and how?
2. What is it that unites (binds) us to Christ? What unites us to each other?
3. What are some things (in addition to those mentioned) that believers have in common with each other?
4. Can unity/oneness be destroyed? Can we destroy and lose it through our sins?