

Preservation of Our Unity

Ephesians 4:7-11*

After discussing the basis of unity (vv. 1–6), Paul now analyzed the means of preserving that unity (cf. “keep the unity,” v. 3) of the body by means of the various gifts.¹

As a living organism, the church is unified because of the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit and God's people are called upon to be diligent in maintaining this unity (v. 3). Since we are a living organism, individually and corporately, there is great diversity in our own physical beings and in the makeup of the local church. The apostle returns to our diversity in this passage and reminds us that our diversity, both individually and collectively, has a designer.

The designer of diversity; the grace giving Christ (7-8)

The designer's position; the ascended exalted Christ (9-10)

The description of the diversity; the gift giving Christ (11)

* These notes are prayerfully provided to aid, not replace, your personal study of God's Word.

¹ Harold W. Hoehner, “Ephesians,” in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 634.