

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A CHURCH MEMBER

*I WILL BE A UNIFYING CHURCH
MEMBER*

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SECOND EBENEZER CHURCH

I WILL BE A UNIFYING CHURCH MEMBER

- ▶ God's desire is for believers in the Body of Christ to get along. It's an emphatic mandate.

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John 13:34-35

³⁴ A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another.

³⁵ By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.

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- ▶ Church members should be a source of unity, not division. We have a Spirit that unites us.

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UNITY

- 1) When church members don't work together, the church is weaker.

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Ephesians 1:15-16

- ¹⁵ Wherefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus, and love unto all the saints,
- ¹⁶ Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;

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Ephesians 4:1-3

- 1 I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,
- 2 With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love;
- 3 Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

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2) Sacrifice your
preferences.

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- 3) Seek to live peaceably with everybody.

Romans 12:18

- 18 If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.

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AVOID GOSSIP

- 1) Gossip and idle talk destroys the unity of the Body.

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Romans 1:29-32

- 29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,
- 30 Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,

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- 31 Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:
- 32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

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- 2) Keep your tongue under control.

James 3:6

- ⁶ And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

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3) When gossip is
shared – rebuke
it!

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FORGIVENESS

- 1) As a source of unity in the Body of Christ and in my church, I must be ready to forgive as I too will need forgiveness.

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Matthew 6:14-15

- 14** For if ye forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you:
- 15** But if ye forgive not men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.

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Colossians 3:12-13

- ¹² Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;
- ¹³ Forbearing one another, and forgiving one another, if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.