

CONNECTED BY BELIEF

Ephesians 4:3-6

Shared convictions and values is a key ingredient of Christian unity

LET'S GET STARTED

Your spiritual beliefs and convictions are vitally important. It's also important what your closest friends believe, because they help you stay true to your beliefs and to share them more effectively. We urgently need the encouragement of like-minded Christians, and that makes our relationship as brothers and sisters in Christ a great blessing.

LET'S HEAR THE WORD

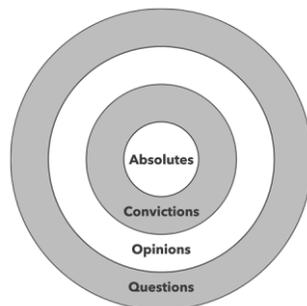
Ephesians 4:3-6 points out that unity among Christians comes from believing the truth.

³ Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

⁴ There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope when you were called—⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism; ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

- We're to make _____ a high priority (v. 3).
- The center point of Christian unity is Jesus Christ and His _____ (vv. 4-5).

Categorizing your beliefs:



Quotable

*Seek unity and you will find
neither unity nor truth.
Seek the light of truth, and
you will find unity
and truth.*

— C. S. Lewis

*When believers are united in
the faith and present a
common front to the world,
they exert power and
influence.*

— Glenn Wagner

*True unity of the Spirit
belongs only to those who
affirm God's truth and live
godly lives as a result.*

— John MacArthur

If you would like to know more

Know What You Believe, by Paul E. Little (InterVarsity Press), 2008

CONNECTED BY BELIEF (Ephesians 4:3-6)

THE VALUE OF SHARED BELIEFS

- Our beliefs _____ us and unite us as Christians.

Titus 1:9—[An elder] must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it.

Titus 2:1—You must teach what is in accord with sound doctrine.

- Likeminded believers help us stay _____ to the truth.

James 5:19-20—¹⁹ My brothers, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him back, ²⁰ remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

- Our beliefs unite us in our _____.

Philippians 2:2—make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.

- Unity of beliefs ensures that we share a _____ message.

Philippians 1:27—Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel.

LET'S LIVE IT

We can put the truth of this message into practice by making sure our beliefs are biblical, and by finding and becoming involved in a Bible-based church where we can fellowship and serve with other Christians who share our core values and convictions.

If you would like to speak to any of our Pastors about a spiritual need in your life, here is their contact information:

Church phone: 843.569.6745

Pastor David: Office extension 11, email: dcoleman@crowfieldbaptist.org

Pastor Gary: Office extension 14, email: gfabian@crowfieldbaptist.org

Pastor Andy: Office extension: 18, email: aanderson@crowfieldbaptist.org

You may also discover what the Bible says about how to become a Christian by visiting the following page on our website: <http://www.crowfieldbaptist.com/salvation/>