

August 10, 2025
Philippians 2:1-4
"One Mind, One Love, One Spirit, One Purpose"

Principles And Practical Application

The message of **verse one** is set forth with an "if" clause followed by four qualities. This "if" may be better understood as "since" or "because" This is more understandable to our western thinking minds because this is literally putting forth four qualities with certainty, not conditional emphasis. Realities not questionable things. Gleaned from *Robert P. Lightner*

"Nothing is achieved in the kingdom except by genuine sincerity and unselfishness." *R. C. H. Lenski*

SINCE/BECAUSE THERE IS V1:

1. Encouragement from being united with Christ. The love of God in people's hearts produces unity, oneness.
2. Comfort from His love. This "consolation" **v 1** is the idea of comfort.
3. Fellowship with the Holy Spirit. A result of the Spirit's permanent indwelling.
4. Tenderness and compassion. A believer's natural overflow-concern and love for others.

FOUR SPECIFIC WAYS SPIRITUAL UNITY IS REALIZED V 2:

1. They will be like-minded.
2. They will have the same love.
3. They will be one in spirit.
4. They will be driven by one purpose.

SPECIFIC WAYS TO PROMOTE GROWING A HEALTHY CHURCH Vv3-4:

1. Nothing done out of selfish ambition. From the Spirit, not the flesh.
2. No vain conceit. No room for "empty glory" rooted in selfish ambition.
3. Do walk in humility. Humility before God and man. Consider others before self.
4. Do be genuinely concerned over the interest of others. Preoccupation of self=sin.

When you meet a godly, genuine person who affectionately invests in the lives of others lives is impacted for good. Don't have someone like that? Be someone like that.

Application: Both church leaders and the congregation can sinfully allow personal interest to destroy a church. The pastor can avoid a lot of this danger by simply using expository preaching and this leads the church away from personal interest and directs hearts and minds toward pleasing God. Humility is the bedrock of good Christian character. For example Moses was more humble than any of his day. Humility has always been important to God. Kindness, gentleness, patience, and humility are great building blocks for a healthy, God honoring church.