



UNITY: THE FORGOTTEN TREASURE

ETC Course Handout - Lesson 14

Devoted to Truth

Course Section	Section 2 - A Reconstruction of Our Theological Conclusions
Book Connection	Chapter 12 - Devoted to Truth
Lesson Aim	Pursue truth vigorously while using a lower-level, relational approach that protects love and unity.

Key Scriptures

John 17:17; Ephesians 4:15; Luke 24:27, 32; 2 Timothy 2:24-25.

1. Unity Is Not Indifference to Truth

- Christian unity does not ask believers to stop studying difficult passages or to silence conviction.
- It changes the way we pursue truth with one another.

Notes:

2. Discover God's Word Together

- Lower-level engagement begins close to the text and invites believers to observe, ask, listen, and learn together.
- Shared discovery can reduce the defensiveness created by competing finished systems.

Notes:

THINK ABOUT IT

What would change in a disputed Bible study if everyone agreed first to keep the Bible open and the relationship intact?

3. An Example: The Atonement

- The chapter uses the atonement to demonstrate how rich biblical truths can be explored without forcing every aspect into one controlling explanation.

Notes:

4. Benefits of a Lower-Level Approach

- It encourages humility, keeps the Bible open, allows real questions, and preserves fellowship while understanding grows.

Notes:

5. Mastering the Principle of Unity

- Unity becomes a practiced principle: seek truth wholeheartedly while refusing to treat a brother or sister as an enemy because of a secondary conclusion.

Notes:

Study & Application

Use these after the lesson and related book reading. The complete chapter study-question set remains in the textbook.

1. Why is devotion to truth compatible with devotion to unity?

2. What are the benefits of discovering Scripture together before comparing systems?

3. How can a complex doctrine contain several biblical dimensions without being reduced to one explanation?

4. What rule could you adopt to protect both truth and relationship during disagreement?

KEY TAKEAWAY: We do not preserve unity by caring less about truth, but by pursuing truth together with humility, patience, and love.

Next: Complete the 7-question Lesson 14 online quiz.