



UNITY: THE FORGOTTEN TREASURE

ETC Course Handout - Lesson 25

A Vision of True Unity

Course Section	Section 3 - A Unifying Analysis of Our Doctrines
Book Connection	Chapter 22 - A Vision of True Unity
Lesson Aim	Envision and begin practicing a church culture where Christ's headship, biblical truth, humility, reconciliation, and shared mission are normal.

Key Scriptures

Romans 15:5-7; Acts 2:42-47; John 17:21-23; Ephesians 4:1-6.

1. What Does Unity Look Like?

- True unity is not sameness. It is a shared life under Christ expressed through love, fellowship, mutual honor, truth, and common purpose.

Notes:

2. Suggestions for Fostering Unity

- Prize knowing God through Christ over the status gained from doctrinal expertise.
- Relish the truth of unity even when different viewpoints and practices remain, and treat fellow believers with humility.

Notes:

3. The Challenges of Unity

- Wounds, mistrust, history, pride, and real doctrinal differences make unity costly.
- Patience is necessary, especially with people and communities that have experienced rejection or conflict.

Notes:

THINK ABOUT IT

If Christian unity became normal in your setting, what would outsiders see that they do not see now?

4. Implementing Unity's Vision

- Unity grows through repeated practices: Christ-centered worship, open Scripture, shared prayer, reconciliation, cooperation, and honest but loving dialogue.

Notes:

5. A Framework for Reconciliation

- Reconciliation requires truthfulness, listening, repentance where needed, forgiveness, and a willingness to rebuild trust over time.

Notes:

6. A Continuing Calling

- Completing the course is not the end. The aim is a changed approach to doctrine and people that makes the unity of Christ's body increasingly visible.

Notes:

Study & Application

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

1. List several practical marks of true Christian unity.
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2. What obstacles make reconciliation difficult, and how should believers respond to them?
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3. What practices can make unity visible without pretending differences have disappeared?
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4. What is one specific change you will make in the way you approach doctrine or fellow believers after this course?
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KEY TAKEAWAY: The vision is a church that bows its theology at Christ's feet and displays His truth, love, peace, and shared life before the world.

Next: Complete the 7-question Lesson 25 online quiz.