

**Answer Key:**

**Change the way you think....**

- Listen
- Think

**My Part in Unity**

1. Focus / differences
2. Work

**CAUTION....**

- worldly values
- world's fights

3. realistic
4. encouragement

**Carolinas Cornerstone's; Part in Unity...**

1. building
2. value
3. focus
4. wisdom
5. force
6. faith

**FOCUS**

**Part 6**

**“UNITY” (2)**

**Psalm 133:1 NIV**

***"How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!"***

**Introductory Statement**

***The Bible talks more about unity of the church than it does about heaven or hell. It is that important. The unity of the church refers to the union of the people of God, in all their various distinctives and expressions, bound to God and to one another by the gospel. The unity of the church is to reflect the unity of the one God upon which the church is built.***

**Change the way you think....**

- \_\_\_\_\_ to God's Word more than the world.

**Psalm 1:1-3 GNT**

***"...obeying the Law of the LORD, and they study it day and night..."***

- \_\_\_\_\_ about what you think about

**Proverbs 4:23 GNT**

***"Be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thoughts"***

## Why Church Unity is Important!

### Ephesians 4:1-3 NLT

***"Therefore I, a prisoner for serving the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love. Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace."***

1. My unity with other believers is the proof that I'm saved.
2. The Trinity is our model for unity.
3. Jesus' last prayer was that members of his church would live in unity.
4. God gives us his glory so we'll be united.
5. Our unity is our greatest witness to unbelievers.
6. Unity removes fear and creates boldness.
7. When a church is truly unified, everybody's needs are met.
8. Baptism and communion are visible signs of unity.
9. Focusing on our common purpose creates unity.
10. Unity begins when we realize we're incomplete without each other.
11. Jesus died to unite us, not divide us.
12. Jesus expects me to work hard at unifying Christians.

## My Part in Unity

1. I have got to \_\_\_\_\_ on what they have in common, not our \_\_\_\_\_.

### Ephesians 4:4-6 NIV

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

### 1 Corinthians 1:10 Living Bible

***"Let there be real harmony so there are no divisions in the church. I plead with you to be of one mind, UNITED in thought and purpose."***

***It is our job to protect the Unity of our Church!***

## My Part in Unity

2. I have got to continually \_\_\_\_\_ at unity.

**Ephesians 4:3 NLT**

***"Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace."***

## CAUTION....

• Do not bring the \_\_\_\_\_  
into the church.

**1 Corinthians 3:3-5 ISV**

***"That's because you are still worldly. As long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, you are worldly and living by human standards, aren't you? For when one person says, "I follow Paul," and another person says, "I follow Apollos," you're following<sup>[a]</sup> your own human nature, aren't you? Who is Apollos, anyhow? Or who is Paul? They're merely servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord gave to each of us his task."***

## CAUTION....

• Do not get sucked into the \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_.

**John 18:36 NIV**

***"Jesus said, 'My kingdom is NOT of this world. If it were, my servants would fight...'"***

**2 Timothy 2:23-25 GNT**

***"But keep away from foolish and ignorant arguments; you know that they end up in quarrels. As the Lord's servant, you must not quarrel. You must be kind toward all, a good and patient teacher, who is gentle as you correct your opponents, for it may be that God will give them the opportunity to repent and come to know the truth.***

***Unity is the soul of fellowship. Destroy it, and you rip the heart out Christ's Body!***

## My Part in Unity

3. I need to be \_\_\_\_\_ about my expectations of others.

### Psalm 119:96 Living Bible

***"Nothing is perfect except Your Words."***

### Ephesians 4:2 NLT

***"Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love...."***

### Colossians 3:14 Living Bible

***"Most of all, let love guide your life, for THEN the whole church will stay together in perfect harmony."***

### 1 Peter 4:8 Message

***"Love each other as if your life depended on it. Love makes up for practically anything."***

***Other believers will disappoint you and let you down, but that is not excuse to stop fellowshiping with them.***

## My Part in Unity

4. I need to offer \_\_\_\_\_ instead of criticism.

### Proverbs 16:21 (TEV)

***"A wise, mature person is known for his understanding. The more pleasant his words, the more persuasive he is."***

### Galatians 5:13-15 NET

***"You've been called to live in freedom — not freedom to indulge your selfish nature, but freedom to serve each other in love. God's entire law is summed up in 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' But you keep biting and devouring each other and tearing each other apart, you will be destroyed by each other."***

***Divorcing your church at the first sign of disappointment or disillusion is a mark of immaturity.***

## **Carolinas Cornerstone's; Part in Unity...**

1. COMMIT ourselves to \_\_\_\_\_ each other up

### **Romans 14 :1 Message**

*"Welcome with open arms fellow believers who don't see things the way you do. And don't jump all over them every time they do or say something you don't agree with—even when it seems that they are strong on opinions but weak in the faith department. Remember, they have their own history to deal with. Treat them gently."*

2. RECOGNIZE the \_\_\_\_\_ of every person.

### **Romans 14:2-4 Message**

*"For instance, a person who has been around for a while might well be convinced that he can eat anything on the table, while another, with a different background, might assume he should only be a vegetarian and eat accordingly. But since both are guests at Christ's table, wouldn't it be terribly rude if they fell to criticizing what the other ate or didn't eat? God, after all, invited them both to the table. Do you have any business crossing people off the guest list or interfering with God's welcome? If there are corrections to be made or manners to be learned, God can handle that without your help."*

## **Carolinas Cornerstone's; Part in Unity...**

3. KEEP our \_\_\_\_\_ on what is important.

### **Romans 14:6,8 Message**

*"What's important in all this is that if you keep a holy day, keep it for God's sake... It's God we are answerable to—all the way from life to death and everything in between—not each other."*

4. EXERCISE our authority with \_\_\_\_\_ out of love for others.

### **Romans 14 11-12 Message**

*"Your critical and condescending ways aren't going to improve your position there one bit. Read it for yourself in Scripture: "As I live and breathe," God says, every knee will bow before me; Every tongue will tell the honest truth that I and only I am God." So, mind your own business. You've got your hands full just taking care of your own life before God."*

## **Carolinas Cornerstone's; Part in Unity...**

5. COMMIT ourselves to not \_\_\_\_\_ our opinion  
on other people.

### **Romans 14:19 Message**

***"So, let's agree to use all our energy in getting along with each  
other. Help others with encouraging words; don't drag them down  
by finding fault."***

6. LIVE by \_\_\_\_\_!

### **Romans 14:22 Message**

***"Cultivate your own relationship with God, but don't impose it on  
others."***

**I challenge you to accept your responsibility to protect  
and promote the UNITY of our church.**