

## **ONE** That The World May Be **WON**

(John 17:20-21)

#### Introduction: 1. John 17 records a prayer prayed by our Lord.

- 2. In this prayer, Jesus prayed that his disciples would be "one" so that the world could be "won."
- 3. We will never have an impact on the world if we are divided and fighting within (Matthew 12:25).
- 4. How many soldiers, marching in the army of the Lord, have either been wounded or killed by "friendly fire?"
- 5. In order for the world to be won, the disciples of the Lord must be one.
- 6. Our elders want us to focus on this task this year.

#### I. The Importance Of Unity

- A. It promotes belief and acceptance of Jesus (John 17:21).
- B. It empowers us (Ecclesiastes 4:12).
- C. It is necessary to function as the body of Christ (1 Corinthians 12:12-27).

#### II. Unity Is Possible

- A. Among Jesus' apostles was a publican (Matthew 10:3) and a zealot (Luke 6:15).
- B. (Isaiah 11:6-9).

### III. How To Achieve And Maintain Unity

- A. We must have the right attitude (Ephesians 4:2).
- B. We must give up our "ease" (Ephesians 4:3).
- C. We must give up our pride (Job 1:9).
- D. We must be willing to compromise (Romans 14:13-19).
- E. We must see the big picture (Matthew 16:26).

# Conclusion: 1. May we accept the challenge and work even harder to achieve and maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

2. It might just mean the difference between heaven and hell for someone.