



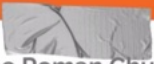
I. A Divided World Needs Our Unity

How can a divided city see the gospel's power if the church is divided?

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How can a divided city see the gospel's power if the church is divided?

A divided city needs a united church



1. The Roman Church: A Case Study (Romans 14-15)

- Italians
- Africans
- Asians & Eastern Mediterraneans

Many Congregations

Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks but all the churches of the Gentiles give thanks as well. Greet also the church in their house.

Romans 16:3-5 (ESV)

One Church

To all those in Rome who are loved by God

Romans 1:7

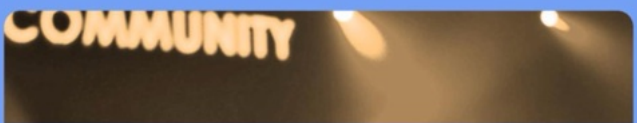
Divisions in Rome:

The **weak** and the **strong**



II. The Gospel Is the Foundation for Unity.

- As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions (14:1 ESV)
- Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God (15:7 ESV)

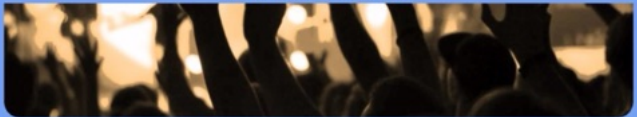


COMMUNITY

CONCLUSION AND MAIN APPEAL:

Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Romans 15:7 ESV



ROMANS 14:18-19 (ESV)

Whoever thus serves Christ is acceptable to God and approved by men. So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.

III. Unity in Diversity is the Shape of Our Unity.

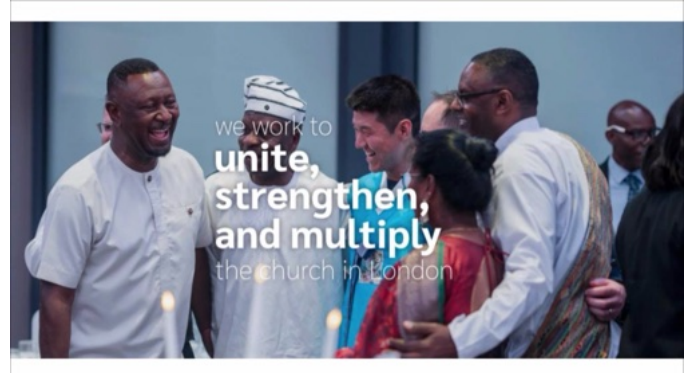


Rev. 7:9-10 (ESV)

After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

London Project

Unity in Action



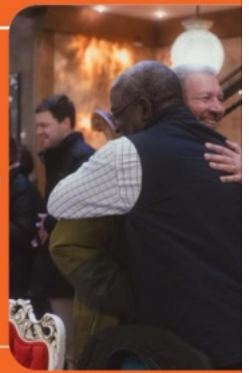


IV. Unity Fuels Mission

- The unity of the church is essential to the mission of the church

Romans 15:5-6 (ESV)

May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.



V. Sacrificial Love is at the Heart of our Unity

We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. 2 Let each of us please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. 3 For Christ did not please himself, but as it is written, "The reproaches of those who reproached you fell on me."

Romans 15:1-3

Practical Steps to Be Together for the City

- Joint Prayer and Worship
- Partnership in Mission
- A City-Wide Vision

One Mind, One voice, One
Mission

May the God who gives
endurance and encouragement
give you the same attitude of
mind toward each other that
Christ Jesus had, so that with one
mind and one voice you may
glorify the God and Father of our
Lord Jesus Christ

Romans 15:5-6

