

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for November 10-11, 2001

Dale Whitehead

"Conducting Ourselves in a Manner Worthy of the Gospel"

Joy is not just about what God is doing in us but what God is doing in others (3 John 1:4).

The first element of conducting ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel is standing firm in one spirit with one mind (Philippians 1:27-30).

The second element of conducting ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel is our pursuit of church unity (Philippians 2:1-4).

The first component in the formula for church unity is right motivations.

The second component in the formula for church unity is a right description.

The first mark of unity is "being of the same mind" (1 Corinthians 1:10).

The second mark of unity is "maintaining the same love."

If we are of the same mind then we will invariably seek to love one another in the same kind of way that we have been loved by God. This is what Paul means when he says "maintaining the same love."

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

The word for love (AGAPE) refers to the unconditional love of God.

The third mark of unity is "united in spirit intent on one purpose."

The word translated "united in spirit" (SUMPSUCHOS) means "one souled."

"United in spirit, intent on one purpose" focuses on the need for the entire church to be "gospel oriented" even as we relate to and care for one another.

"Make my joy complete" is a command for the Philippian church to continue to practice church unity as Paul describes it in Philippians 2:2.