

**Know and Do—Understanding the Church** (Series Outline from Capitol Hill Baptist Church)

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| 1. Week 1: "Unity in the Church"      | 8. Week 8: "Responding to Leadership"          |
| 2. Week 2: "Church Membership"        | 9. Week 9: "Church Discipline"                 |
| 3. Week 3: "Diversity in the Body"    | 10. Week 10: "Building One Another Up"         |
| 4. Week 4: "Right Preaching"          | 11. Week 11: "Serving in the Church"           |
| 5. Week 5: "Church Governance"        | 12. Week 12: "Corporate Worship"               |
| 6. Week 6: "Biblical Fellowship"      | 13. Week 13: "Discipleship—Making and Growing" |
| 7. Week 7: "Handling Dissatisfaction" |  |

**Understanding the Church, Week 1: "Unity"** (know portion)

I. First, understand that the church, by definition, \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.

II. We must \_\_\_\_\_ this unity.

1. Remember \_\_\_\_\_ (Eph. 4:1). *I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,*
2. Remember that you are not \_\_\_\_\_ that Christ called (Eph. 4:2–3). <sup>2</sup> *with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup> eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*
3. Remember \_\_\_\_\_ we uphold (Eph. 4:4–6, see v. 14). <sup>4</sup> *There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*
4. Remember \_\_\_\_\_ to which God has called his church (Eph. 4:11ff).
5. Remember the \_\_\_\_\_ to which we are pointing (Rev. 7:9–12). <sup>9</sup> *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, <sup>10</sup> and crying out with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup> And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup> saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."*

### **Understanding the Church, Week 1: “Unity”** (do portion)

1. Why is unity in the church so important? Justify your answer with Scripture.
2. Considering Paul’s words to the church in Ephesus (Eph. 2–3), how is a desire for church unity linked to Christian identity?
3. Consider your call to follow Christ. How should it motivate you to pursue unity in the church (Eph. 4:1)?
4. Why is it important to realize Christ has called a diversity of people to faith (Eph. 4:2–3)? How does this idea help you understand the need for church unity?
5. Why must unity include some kind of division (Eph. 4:4–6)?
  - a. What can happen to a church that is not clear on doctrine?
  - b. How is theological triage helpful in knowing when and how to divide?
  - c. For each order of doctrine below, briefly define and give examples:
    - i. 3<sup>rd</sup> order—
    - ii. 2<sup>nd</sup> order—
    - iii. 1<sup>st</sup> order—
6. What was Paul’s prayer request to the church in Ephesus in Eph. 6:18–20? How does his prayer request tie in with the mission of the church (Matt. 28:18–20)? Why is church unity crucial to the mission?
7. What is the ultimate end to which church unity is pointing (Rev. 7:9–12)? How does keeping this end in mind strengthen you to strive for unity?
8. Write down one thing you can do this week to promote church unity. And go do it 😊