

Love is the Cure for Division

by Walter Brubacker

This sermon emphasizes the importance of unity, love, and humility in the Christian walk. It delves into the dangers of division caused by pride and selfishness, drawing parallels to biblical examples like Adam and Eve's separation from God. The message highlights the need to consider others, strive for peace, and discern the body of Christ to avoid strife and maintain fellowship. It also touches on the pain of separation as a test of true love and the significance of unity in glorifying God.

Scripture: Galatians 6:1, James 4:4, Psalm 133:1, Hebrews 12:1, 1 Peter 3:8, Psalm 34:3, 1 Corinthians 13:4, Revelation 1:4, Galatians 6:7, Psalm 122:1

Topics: "Unity in the Body of Christ", "The Power of Humility and Love"

Description

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Transcript

Greetings in the name of Jesus. It's a real blessing to meet here with brothers and sisters and those seeking the narrow way and the path to eternity. Thank you.

I was blessed with Luke 6 and really the core of a lot of, the core of Christianity and the core of our being. And it just brings out probably everything I want to try to share, but I'll try to share what I have been thinking about. Can we stand for prayer? Our Heavenly Father, we thank you for, thank you again for being with us, each one of us and allowing us to gather together and to seek you and to worship you and thank you.

We ask that you would be with us today and help me to be clear and share the things that encourage and bring us closer to you. Bless each one here in the name of Jesus. Amen.

So I was thinking this week about what is really dangerous to us or what is one of these huge dangers that we have? I think there's many. I don't think there's just like one, but the one I'm going to pick on today is division, separation, just not getting along. And I think it's an action of pride.

When we have pride, that is why we have conflicts. Well, I guess the one apostle says it's because we, can't quote it right now, but I think so. Yeah.

And what did he say? I just can't bring it to my mind. Yeah. Anyways, it sounds like they're trying to paint something for themselves at any rate.

And isn't that what division? I was just thinking how Adam and Eve, to start with, they divided themselves from God. And why? Why did they divide themselves from God? They have been together. They have been, I guess, helping each other through their life or whatever they were doing.

And all of a sudden they were hiding and they were afraid. And God came like He normally did that evening when it got cool. And they had this time with God and they had separated themselves.

They had caused division because they were selfish. And so division is a very, they felt, I don't know how they say Eve was deceived, but somehow she still did not want to submit to God or was not willing to believe God. I'm not sure that I could say why, but it's a cost separation and serious separation.

I don't think we can imagine the destruction that came from that decision. Was it just a little speck, one bite out of an apple if it was an apple? Was it just a little speck? It was huge. The little speck in an eye wouldn't hurt at all if we didn't have any feelings.

If there's no spirit of God, we wouldn't have any trouble at all. We'd just be animals and we'd just be atheists or whatever you want to call them, evolutionists. There's no feeling, there's no spirit.

But that little speck with feelings gets to be a big deal. And same thing with Adam and Eve. That little disobedience was a big deal.

It was serious and it separated and it was division. Cain, he immediately had that same problem. He had pride.

He separated himself from God. He disobeyed God. God told him, you need to take this sin in hand.

You need to be a master over it. Or maybe it wasn't a sin yet, but this thought he was having. But he turned his back on that and sinned and he was serious.

And these things go on up through the Scriptures. There's always these people. Before the time of Noah, man would not let God's spirit strive with him anymore.

These decisions people make. I believe Noah had made a decision to follow God and he had made a decision to obey God. And after that, God came to him with a very big thing to comprehend or to be obedient to.

Go build a huge ship or ark building that floats on water on top of this hill. There's going to be lots of water. But he was a man of faith.

He didn't stagger with that. These were encouraging men that we look to. Abel, for that matter, too, I was intending to also bring out the other side, but he was a man of faith as well.

His name is in the New Testament, that's one that had faith. It says he still speaks his spirit or his words or his faith still speaks today. That's how long-lasting our decisions can be.

But today, right now, this moment we're here making decisions. We can be selfish. I think most of these things will divide when we're selfish, arrogant.

These things will divide. It's the cause of divorce. It's the cause of strife.

It separates. When we see two people striving and people sometimes strive with us and we strive with them, hopefully we overcome that. We need to not strive.

As Christians, that is our calling, not to strive. Does that mean we don't stand for truth? No, it doesn't mean that. It means that we don't have a contentious attitude or that our youthful lusts rise up and we want to fight for our rights.

That's what causes wars. That's why there's huge wars. Men want to strive.

Men want to fight. They get into arguments and some men just decide they're going to start taking over things too. That happens too.

Just a desire to be lifted up. This is also a great sin. That's a great sin that Satan, that snake, may have had too.

He wanted to rise up and be like God. He ended up having to be thrown out of heaven or out of the presence of God. So are we in danger of any of these? Are we in danger of striving with our brothers and sisters? Can we very quickly cause division? Do we very quickly feel like, well, I can't get along with that and just make a cut off hastily? Rationally? Not with prayer and considering, thinking, being slow to answer? Can we cause division? I know we all have felt division.

From our families sometimes. Some of us, older ones especially, our families don't support us, they don't agree with us, they don't like us. I don't know about liking, but they would want us to follow their way.

They're satisfied with that if we'd follow their way. So we have to make decisions deliberately and with careful thought and prayer to not also embrace or be a partaker of sins. And my thoughts went on to, there's more children here than grown-ups.

I think, I didn't count, but I just think so. There's lots of children and they will all have to come to this place of surrendering all. You know, the answer to not dividing is love or it will, love cannot cause division between brothers and it will cause division with wrong, but it will not cause division with two people wanting to serve God.

It cannot. That is totally impossible. This is why I think it's important that we learn that we're able to discern the body of God.

If we can't discern that, it says we end up in death and weakness. Because I think there's a mixture of, just a mixture of good and bad. Some sins, but we really like the people and well, you know, maybe they're trying to do better, but there's, we have to discern the body of Christ or we will be unfaithful.

And this is why some, that's why it's one thing that why it's important to me that there's only one body. There's only one God of love. There's not a lot of them.

There's only one God. And either we immerse ourselves into his kingdom and be part of that, and we fellowship with him, we fellowship with those that do the same. And that is my desire that we can

encourage one another in these things to forsake, that we can forsake ourselves.

And this is the point I was thinking about. Our children will have to come to this place as well of forsaking everything. We cannot serve God and keep part of ourselves.

If we try to, it'll be like this speck in the eye. Something's wrong. Something doesn't work out.

And by God's grace, we can together figure out and help one another in these things. And one thought I had about a beam, I think, yeah, the question had been, why did the Pharisees miss Jesus? How did they miss him? But if they were the ones with a beam in their eye, they couldn't see him. You can't see people with a beam in front of your eye.

You can't even see. Not forward, maybe see a little bit here and there, but your sight is terribly hindered. You can't drive.

You can't do anything hardly with a beam in front of you, or in your eye would be much worse. That's an illustration, I think, of how blind we've become. So blind that we can miss Jesus.

And these people were also willing to divide. They were so desperate to divide, they were willing to kill Jesus. They were willing to kill Lazarus, and they were willing to kill others too, and the apostles, and the prophets.

And so badly they wanted division. So my encouragement is that we see God in these things that divide, and repent from them, and forsake them. The pride of life, and these things are divisive, and they will cause us to end up missing the mark and this is something that by faith, this is something we don't want to miss.

I don't know the depth of missing eternal life. In 1st John 2, it says do not love the world or the things in the world. The love of the Father is not in those who love the world.

For all that is in the world, the desire of the flesh, and the desire of the eyes, and the pride in riches, comes not from the Father but from the world. And the world and its desire are passing away, and those who do not do, but those who do the will of God live forever. So how do people miss the marks of that? How can it be there's divisions? And I think, personally I think there's not so much division.

I'm not sure how to put this. Like I said earlier, love cannot divide. It cannot.

It's impossible. Otherwise God wouldn't be true. So can I say that most of what is called Christianity must not be on track? With that I want to say that I do not judge individuals in groups, but when there's a group teaching of something that is contrary to Scripture, that teaching is wrong.

And I do not recognize that as the body of God. Does that mean I condemn everybody in there? I do not. But I think this reason, this the thing that God's body is one, I have no right to knowingly, I don't know, and I don't know how God looks at that.

I don't want that either. But I believe there's many people unknowingly deceived perhaps. Eve was deceived, and I'm, we can be deceived too.

Deception is a real thing. It's not something that has left us. However, it is very, I think deception is very subtle.

Like our neighbor used to say, he said, when you're deceived, you don't know it. How dangerous can that be? But there, I think there's a hope if we forsake all and we embrace truth. Even if we stumble, even if we fall, that we get up and we embrace truth.

We press on toward that light. I think there's a way to get there. But it's narrow, and it's hard.

It is not going to be easy. There's something in us that wants to be recognized by men. Maybe, I've been trying to figure this one out, but maybe God intends us to recognize Him, and we just divert it.

I think it's safe to say, He wants our devotion. He wants our hearts. He wants our life.

He wants our will. He's not willing to share it with anybody. So, when we look at others, and we want approval, and we want to have a self-approving thing going, God has left out of the picture.

Forsaking all is the love of money, or the pride in riches. In Luke, there it says, the poor, they're ready to, they don't have riches in their way. They can just go to God if they want.

For poor in spirit, we don't have many great philosophies in our minds, how to please God, and how to please men. We can just go to God. If we're poor, it's our benefit.

I don't believe it means that every poor person is just automatically a godly person. We can see that's not true. And neither can we say that every rich person is evil, because it's also not true.

But there's a benefit. There's a danger in riches, and it can deceive us. The point is that we have to humble ourselves.

I'm not sure where it's at right now, but to tell those that have riches to be humble about it, and to seek. I'm just paraphrasing. It gives us instruction how to deal with riches, and we cannot take any consolation in it.

We cannot take any consolation living in America either. We should be thankful for every blessing we have, but if we think America is this strong, great country that is helpful to the poor, and helpful to the weak, this is not true. But we have many blessings here, and I think we need to be thankful.

But we cannot take any consolation in it. We cannot take any security in it. We cannot say, oh, this is my country.

We live in America. No, all countries are equal. If I live in another country, I want that same attitude.

I'm going to do what I can to be helpful to whoever. I think this is a Christian way, regardless of where we're at, what we're doing, that we need to have the Spirit of Christ in us, and to follow those ways. Each one of us, all of us here, have this perfect ability to choose to forsake ourselves.

Or we all have this ability, I think a perfect ability, to become selfish and do things our ways. That ability is so perfect. On the side of God, it's a little more blurry on our side, I think, but I think it's so perfect that eternity is at stake on our decisions.

That's how much God give to us, and we're responsible for those decisions. I do not believe God predestined us to do evil and to serve the devil. There's at least one scripture, plainly, that says that we're predestined to do good.

So I look at that as God's heart is to, He wants all of us to repent and walk in His ways. Because of things that happened in the past that we can't help, the situation is the way it is. To begin with, Adam and Eve made a fatal mistake in walking in the harmony with God, and after that, there's been many wicked things happening.

People have made very bad choices and continue to do so. But I believe God's heart is that whoever will hear, whoever will take Christ and follow Him can be saved. I don't know if I have a little more to share on the desire of the flesh or the desire of the eyes and the pride and riches.

I think it goes into all aspects of our lives. I don't think there's a corner that doesn't get touched. I think clothing becomes something that we have to consider, food is something we have to consider, our transportation we have to consider, our houses, our lands, our countries.

I think everything has to be considered. There's a man I knew that he said when people say, if you become a Christian, nothing matters. Nothing matters.

And I think with indication that you kind of do what you want. And he said, no, when you become a Christian, all things matter. We care about one another in all things.

And if somebody is very rude and sometimes we have to actually brace ourselves and kind of be hard, if you will, so that you don't get destroyed, that happens. I mean, there's many ways things happen. And we have to deal with them.

We're not perfect and so we end up having to forgive one another. But we have to strive for perfection. We have to strive for that kingdom.

We have to strive to allow no division among us, not based on human reasoning, but based on Luke 6, based on Matthew 5, 6 and 7, based on what the apostle taught. If we have to take every thought captive, why wouldn't that include everything? What is outside of our thoughts? Do we have any thoughts that are outside of ourselves? Are not the thoughts that we have about outward things? Are we always thinking something inside that doesn't pertain to what's outside? Our thoughts affect what we do outside. I believe God has given us this body of flesh whereby our spirit can perform and do things, think things.

We can make decisions. We can move around. This is the flesh that God gave us so we're to express our spirit.

And that is the thing that gets held accountable. There's a short few verses here in Revelation 1. So we have all this before us. We need to be careful.

We need to be alive. We need to be well and especially in the spirit. But how does this happen? How can we be secure? In the part of verse 4 starts with, Grace to you and peace from him who is, who was, and who is to come.

And from the seven spirits who are before his throne. And from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood and made us to be a kingdom priest serving his God and Father.

To him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. So this is our king.

This is why we make these decisions. This is why we, one brother brought out the point that he thinks it was easier in the Old Testament than today. I don't know about the easy part but I had this feeling and this idea that when I look at, this is one of the reasons that I was persuaded that Christ's religion was the correct religion.

This is the correct, this is one of the reasons. It's because it's a kingdom, the only religion I know that's peaceful. The only religion that would teach us the things that go to eternal life and they're welcome in heaven.

Jesus words are welcome in heaven. Doing his will, that's welcome in heaven. I think it's heaven itself.

If all sin were removed right now and we would live that, it would be heaven. But we have sin around us and we have to strive. We have to work.

We have to labor. We have to search. We have to seek.

We have to strive. And so when I see Jesus' teachings, are they not easy? If you are nice Christians, isn't it easy to be around you? And hopefully if I'm a Christian, I'm easy to be around. We can get along.

We can encourage one another, enjoy one another's fellowship. And it's because of Jesus' teachings. These words are life to us.

And the end is eternal life, as will the other side be eternal death. So this is the part that I think 1 Corinthians 13, 4 is the part that I think makes things beautiful. God's creation is beautiful.

It's all the grass and flowers and trees. And this is springtime and everything's breaking forth in life. This is how his words are in a dead person, in a dead soul that needs life.

And when he can have his will in us, this beauty we can see with the eyes and feel the warmness and the many flavors that start coming out of the ground that we can eat. God has really made a very complex, beautiful creation. But in the spiritual, it's kind of similar because it isn't like love is patient, love is kind, love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude.

It does not insist on its own way. It is not irritable or resentful. It does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth.

It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Isn't this, isn't this, if this beauty grows out of us, isn't it worthy of heaven? Aren't Jesus' words worthy of heaven? Of course they are. There's nothing else to go by.

Love never ends. And he goes on in the prophecies and things. But should I say maybe it's a thing that got destroyed in the Garden of Eden when they disobeyed and made division.

There's also the other thing in play here with that situation. That is, Satan already had an agenda at that time. He was pushing something.

He was pushing for division. He was prideful. He got, I don't know what all happened to him, but he was cast out in what we call the spiritual world maybe.

And somehow this earth became a place where he was and he had an agenda when he came to Eve. He didn't even bother facing Adam. Some people have heard blame Adam that he wasn't where he should have been, allowing her to be somewhere.

But I think that's reading into scripture. But at least I think so. I think Satan knew he had a better chance.

And very obviously God thought so too. Because he said, he said after this time that a woman should be, I can't think of the words, but be submissive and the man should rule or be in charge, lead out. And we see that when that happens in a family or in a marriage I should say maybe.

When a man is allowed to lead out, there's harmony and there's beauty and there's there's beautiful things. When a woman leads out against her man, there's division. It has to be.

Whenever we defy the will of God, there's division. And a lot of times pride is behind it. I think deception gets in that picture too, but I'm not sure how to explain all that.

Maybe someday I'll understand deception a little better. Not that I understand this all that well either. So there's beauty to be had and there's safety to be had, but only if we forsake all for Christ.

And I'll leave off at that and feel free to share, correct, or reprove. Just be free. Amen, Brother Walter.

Simple message, but so profound. Profound means deep. It means it's simple, but it's so profound.

When you said one of the last things you said was Satan was, and I thought, hey, past tense is. I saw the flag half-mast a few days ago and I said, hey, what's going on? And I told my wife yesterday, you know why the flag was half-mast anyway, a couple of days ago? Max, you know, Brother Max. Yeah, sure.

Some of you don't. It was another mass shooting in Atlanta. This guy didn't like Asians, so he just killed Asians because of the virus.

No, what was it, Brother? I'm sorry. It wasn't racial. Okay.

You know more than I. That's what I heard. I googled it up. But anyway, Satan is still, he's still running around.

I mean, it's not like big deal. We get desensitized by these mass shootings. The things you read, again, Basic, Walter, thank you.

Sweet in the mouth, but bitter in the belly. It's great to listen to, but it's hard to live out. And we should crucify the old man, the old woman, as much as we can, the old man.

And there's a couple of comments on divisions. I think Walter was so strong on love is the key. Love is the answer for divisions.

And Philippians, they had trouble with unity. And he said, Cynthia and Yoda get together, unity. But then he said in Philippians 2, think of others as more important than yourself.

Get our eyes focused off ourselves in a crazy mirror and look at others who have it a thousand times worse than us and try to help them, and especially the brothers. But it's look at others as more important than yourself. A new commandment he gave us.

Well, what's the matter with the old commandment? The old commandment said to love your neighbors as yourself. But the new commandment, he says, the new commandment I give you, what's the new commandment? It's a different kind, to lay down your life for your brother, to lay down, to think of your brother or sister as more important than yourself. And Philippians 2. Someone, maybe your brothers can correct me on this one, but everyone struggles with the two verses in the Old Testament is when Moses, he said to God, was talking to him and he said, well, blot my name out.

Save the people, save the children of Israel, but blot my name out. And then in the New Testament, the apostle Paul says the same thing. I wish I could be Christ.

Blot them out, but save the Jews. And I think, correct me if I'm wrong, the reason for that was love. Moses had love for his brothers and Paul had love for the things.

And we need to have that love. We need it so desperately. And so I was, I thought, you know, people grouped together.

Nehemiah had a mind to work. In Nehemiah, the book, they had a mind to work, unity. And in Acts 2, they didn't think of any of the possessions were their own, but they all shared.

May we share, most of all, our love with each other. The Lord be magnified. I just wanted to thank Walter for his message.

I just, I like the, I just wanted to comment on the one part at the end that he mentioned about in a family or a marriage, you know, how it ought to be. And I just wanted to say that just being in fellowship with you guys, this whole group, this last couple of months is just really impressed me that how I see how husbands and wives act around each other and behave with one another. And it's just, it's been encouraging to me to want to strive, strive for better.

Thank you. You said love doesn't divide. And I just kind of thought maybe sometimes it does.

Okay, maybe I spaced out on that part. All right. Yeah, thank you for both messages.

Yeah, I kind of had a similar thought that Buddy had, but I had thought I caught on or at least knew what you were saying is that love, love amongst those who are right with God can't, can't divide. But that the same Jesus who brought that unity also brought division against those things which are not of God. Yeah, love is one of the greatest and most delicate of all, of all human emotions.

I'm not suggesting that it's merely an emotion, but it just, it involves emotions and it, it is one of the most, it is, it is the greatest and probably the most delicate. And that's why, that's why as Walter said, when there's, when there's division, there's pain. We feel it.

And could I just suggest that let's, let's be thankful for that pain because we'd just be a, we wouldn't care much about division if we wouldn't feel pain. In a similar way, I think this would go with what Walter Jr. shared in the opening about the speck in his eye and the pain he went through. And like, let's be thankful for pain because what if, what if we didn't experience it? What if we started, what if we got our, our hand into some great pinching device and we never, it never was painful and we just leave it right there until our hand was totally crushed and gone? Let's be thankful that it really starts hurting, that we can do something about it.

What if, what if we had no pain when we broke a leg and we just kept right on it going until we damaged a whole lot more than what, what was to start with? And so like when, when we feel something, you know, some, whatever, the tiniest little element of division or separation that brings pain, like, let's not, let's not, not be thankful for the pain. Let's, let's, let's be thankful for the pain and, and then work toward the right solution to, to not have further destruction. I had lots of thoughts.

I won't take time to share them all. I heard John D. Martin say one time that a community starts and the people love each other so much that they could eat each other and two years later, lo and behold, that's what they're doing. It's, love is delicate.

Love is, there's, there's other aspects that have to go with it. Truth has to go with love. Righteousness and peace have to go together.

One thing I might just expound a little bit on, Walter said, how when you become a Christian, everything matters, instead of like what that one guy said, that nothing matters. I, I think it'd be appropriate to say when you become a Christian, everything matters. I've heard the same.

Well, growing up, the Amish would accuse those of leaving the Amish for saying, you know, all that really matters is that the heart is right. And there's really some truth to that, but it, when the heart is right, everything matters. When the heart is, when the heart is in the right place, it matters to us that everything matters from inner life to outer life, families, our children, things, things Walter mentioned.

I wanted to, I was recently reading some history on, on some church history, and it said in about 988, about the turn of the first century, no, it wouldn't be the first century, be the first millennium, I guess. There was a man named Vladimir who was, who, who conquered a good portion of Russia, what's now Russia, and he became powerful, and he wanted to embrace, he did end up embracing Byzantine Christianity, and caused, like what often happened is if a, if a king or a ruler embraced a religion, it had a, it had the effects of rapid spread of that religion through, through the country, and that's what happened, that's, that's how Russia became, largely became a Russian Orthodox country. But it says, legend has it that Vladimir, wanting to choose a new religion, considered all the monotheistic religions.

He did not like Judaism, because it appeared their god had forsaken them, and he would have to give up pork. Muhammadism, he did not favor, because he would have to renounce alcohol. With Christianity, he would have to give up the least, and so he chose Christianity, the least.

He had to give up the least by, by choosing Christianity, but yeah, just, just to give you an idea what kind of Christianity that was, like he, he took what he embraced, he took seriously, and he started casting out idols and all that, but he also called everybody in his, in his country or jurisdiction to come to the river to be baptized, or else they'll be considered an enemy of his country, and on the day scheduled, you know, there was a priest up on the cliff who said, said the baptismal words, and he ordered everybody to march through the river, and they came out on the other side, baptized a Christian, um, uh, similar, similar to Constantine, some, some 700 years earlier, but no, when, when we become a Christian, when we devote our lives to Christ, everything matters. We, we, uh, we consider all, all things that would, and, and hold on to those things that please Christ, and just renounce those things that don't. God bless you.

Amen. Um, I appreciated the comments that have been shared. Um, I see you had a lot of thoughts, uh, when you're sharing, Walter, a lot of different things, but trying to just consider what would be the most important thing to talk about, and, um, I was thinking about something in my, in my own life, um, a

scripture that really helps me, has really helped me over the years, and, um, yeah, I think, I think on more than one occasion, I've, I've, I've been seeing something in somebody else's life, and, you know, I might have not thought right about it, and, and then lo and behold, it happens to me, and, um, and it just, it's like the, the scripture gives you the warning that that's going to happen.

It tells you, and it shows you, and it gives you counsel on, on what to do beforehand so it doesn't happen, and, but sometimes it seems like we can read these scriptures, and they, they sound wise, and they seem true, but for some reason, we're just not quickened how wise and how true they are, and I was thinking about, um, how you said about discerning the body, um, I had this thought when, when somebody was sharing their comment how our, our, you know, we're talking about the eyes, and, um, like the Word of God, it's almost like, it's like your eyelashes, in some ways, like it, it's there to, like, warn you. It's like, um, you know, like if something flies towards your eye and hits your eyelash, your eyes will close instinctively, and, and God's Word can be used the same way, and it can, it can be that, that truth that will, when something is coming towards you that's going to hurt you, it could, it can protect you, if that makes sense. Anyways, um, here's the scripture that I wanted to read.

It's in Galatians 6, 1. Brethren, if any man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such one in the spirit of meekness, considering thyself also, lest thou also be tempted. I mean, if you could just lay a hold how true that is, it will really save you a lot of pain in the future. Um, that word considering, I looked it up, it, you know, it's like, it had, it had a number of different definitions, but one thing that it said that was in the Strongs was to take aim at.

So, it's really interesting that our eyes, they're, they're, they're set outward, so we always focus on what we can see in front of us. It's not, they're not turned towards us. Um, but this scripture is telling us to take aim at ourselves, like, like, when you see something in somebody else's life, it's almost like close your eyes and don't focus on them, focus on yourself, take aim at yourself, and, um, and consider yourself and consider what you're doing.

Don't, I mean, we have to make judgments and we have to use discernment, but, but we really have to deny ourselves and deny our pride and deny our egos and we just need to consider ourselves in a lot of these matters, like, like how, if that was happening to me, what would I want somebody else to be doing for me in that situation? And then, if we do that, then we, we tend to love each other more and we, we tend to appreciate each other more and we tend to be more merciful and kind and respectful and courteous and, and, and that's really, that's the, really the spirit that we need to be having as Christians. And, um, I was reminded recently, me and a brother were talking about something and, you know, it's one of those really controversial topics and, and, um, it kind of got, it started going in the wrong direction and, and then we stopped talking about it because we could tell it was going in the wrong direction, but then there was just like this feeling of like, uh, didn't feel good and, and I just, I just felt like the, the scriptures, the spirit of the scripture was saying, go immediately to your brother and make sure that friend, like, humble yourself and just say, hey, like, like, that's not important. The most important thing is that we love each other and that we care about each other and, but I just considered myself in the matter and it really caused me to just see, like, like how he must have been feeling when I was talking to him and sharing what I was sharing and, um, I think it was just the Bible, it's just God's grace, this, this truth that just helped me to just do the right thing and I think if we just, if we consider each other more in, in the things that we talk about and, and how we talk to each other, it'll keep us in check and I think it's a really good thing.

Also, there was some other things that you had shared that I really appreciated, um, they're kind of escaping me right now, but, oh yeah, um, when you had talked about in the book of James, um, they lost and they wore, I think that was a scripture you might have been, was that it? Yeah, I think, I think in the context, one of the things that was causing conflict there was the love of the world and then right before that, in the, in the chapter before that, it says, my brethren, be not many masters for we shall receive the greater condemnation. I think that word master, it means, like, teacher and I think what it's implying is be not teaching a bunch of things or sharing a bunch of ideas and opinions and, like, because that causes strife and division, like, when you're just, you know, you're, you're, there's, everybody's got these opinions and they're all talking about these things and then he's got all these opinions, he's talking about all these things and when you get into that type of environment, there's a lot of, there's a lot of stuff going on and it can, it can cause, um, you know, there's going to be disagreements and so maybe the wisdom there is to just, you know, kind of keep your conversation simple and focused on those things that matter and not be real opinionated and just be humble and considering yourselves and I think that, you know, that direction is, is a peaceful direction. But anyways, I appreciated the message and I appreciate everyone's comments.

Thank you. I just want to touch on that thing a little more, um, let's see, uh, Duane was talking about the, how the pain is good, um, and then I think Walter Jr. said, I think you, you liken that pain to the spirit of God? I thought he did. Um, and I just, like, to tie that together with, um, this time, I mean, love doesn't want to separate but ultimately, like, our God who is love has, um, instructed us that there comes a point where the, the thing to do is separate and that, I just want to, like, clarify, like, that is the lovingest thing you can do, like, the way to love in a certain situation is to separate.

If, if, if I was going the wrong direction and we're doing something wrong and the brethren said to me, buddy, if you keep going this, this direction you're going, this thing you're doing, this choice you're making is wrong, if you keep going this way, like, we, we can't be friends anymore, buddy, we, we can't, we can't be, we're not in fellowship anymore, we, we can't, we don't bless, we can't bless you, like, um, that, that threat of separation, like, appeals, it's a test to appeal to the spirit within me. Um, if, if, if I would say within myself, well, I just, I guess if, if I have to, if you guys are making me choose, I, I guess I'm gonna choose this direction or this, this thing in my life over you guys and if you guys want to leave me, then goodbye, like, the, the spirit of God would be, like, oh, man, I don't, I'm gonna lose my brothers, uh, I guess I'll just put this thing down, I mean, or I, I need to stop, like, it should appeal and it, it's kind of a test to, to whether or not you have it, I, I marvel how some people are just so easily able to go live in caves or go off by themselves and don't seem to feel that, that pain, I think that pain, um, it's a real, a real revealer, like, you know, what Teo was saying, uh, not, not being in agreement, hurt, he, he wanted to, it, uh, it was something God used to, to prick him into action. When blessed, holy soul, if I shall all men know, that Christ, disciples, we've become, as are the Father and the Son, pray Jesus, and behold, be one in unity, be full of goodness and peace, when together, brethren, dwell in unity, be one in unity, be full of goodness and peace, when together, brethren, dwell in unity, be full of goodness and peace, when together, brethren, dwell in unity, behold how good and blessed it is, when together, brethren, dwell in unity, by the hills of Kerman's hills, and over Zion's hills, in Christ, as those who dwell thereon, who live no more for self alone, and not the act of mother earth's re-uniting, behold how good and blessed it is, when together, brethren, dwell in unity, in arms of perfect love, in centers far above, all earthly nations, cultures, clouds, the brethren's hearts and souls are one, a song in harmony, a song of unity, behold how good and blessed it is, when together, brethren, dwell in unity, to a true father's seat, let him come hither, one here will constant be, come wind, come weather, there's no discouragement, shall we make him once relent, his

first about intent to be a pilgrim, who solely stand in ground with his most lowly, do but themselves confound his strength of glorious, no lion can imprise him with a giant fight, only he will have the right to be a pilgrim, of the Lord, of the infant, of his spirit, he knows he and the end, shall life inherit, then when he's far away, he'll hear our partners say, he'll wait with eye and day to be a pilgrim, sing my soul his glorious love, good from young, bright from above, ever watchful o'er our way, still to many steps his grace, heaven and earth by him were made, all his might is set their sway, why are we that he should show, so much love to us below, God the merciful and good, bought us with the Savior's blood, and to make our safety sure, guides us by his spirit pure, sing my soul the glorious name, let his glory be thy theme, praise him till he calls thee home, trust his love for all to come.

Come bless the Lord, in the presence of the Lord, to stand by night, in the house of the Lord, lift up your head, and the Holy Grail, and bless the Lord, and bless the Lord, come bless the Lord, in the service of the Lord, to stand by night, to stand by night, in the house of the Lord, lift up your head, and the Holy Grail, and bless the Lord, and bless the Lord,

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