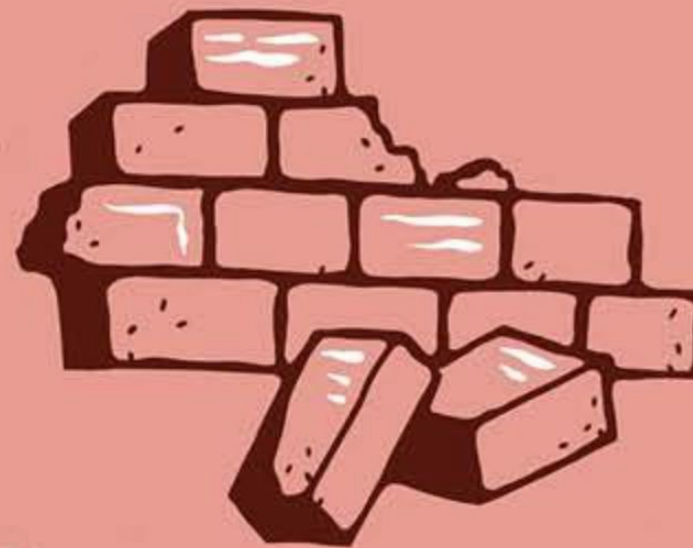




EPHESIANS

4:1 – 6



Introduction

Unity requires spiritual substance.

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Substance is the path of faithful striving in Christ through which the Holy Spirit makes us more like Jesus.

Unity requires spiritual substance.

When the Bible speaks of substance it says things like, “and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness”

(Eph. 4:24)

and

“For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light (for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth” (Eph. 5:8)

Unity requires spiritual substance.

- **Unity requires a common motivation.**
- **Unity is based on our common beliefs.**
- **Unity is based on our common practices.**

Unity requires a common motivation.

Ephesians 4:1

**As a prisoner of the Lord, then,
I urge you to live a life worthy
of the calling you have received.**

Unity requires a common motivation.

We are motivated by the high and noble calling of God to be his children and the tremendous blessings that calling bestows on us.

Unity requires a common motivation.

1:4, God chose us for himself before the world was created.

1:5, He predestined us to be his children—and that means heirs of all our Father owns.

1:6, He sealed us with his Holy Spirit to preserve us forever.

Unity requires a common motivation.

2:7, He promises to spend an eternity increasing our joy in the immeasurable riches of his grace.

3:10, He has given us the mission as the church to display his wisdom in the world.

Unity requires a common motivation.

3:17 – 19, He has rooted and established us in his immeasurable love, a love that we comprehend more and more as we serve him.

Unity requires a common motivation.

How do you keep the spiritual fire of the love of God steadily burning?

- **Set some spiritual goals**

Unity requires a common motivation.

Spiritual Goals

- **Live an unhurried life**
- **Love people**
- **Be grateful to God for everything**
- **Practice moderation in all things**

Unity requires spiritual substance.

- **Unity requires a common motivation.**
- **Unity is based on our common beliefs.**

Unity is based on our common beliefs.

Ephesians 6:4 – 6

There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Unity is based on our common beliefs.

**One Body (4) – The body of Christ
which every believer is a member of
after being placed there at conversion
by the Holy Spirit.**

Unity is based on our common beliefs.

One Spirit (4) – The same Holy Spirit indwells each believer. Our physical DNA is not identical but our spiritual DNA absolutely is. We have the same Spirit and belong to each other in the Lord.

Unity is based on our common beliefs.

**One hope when you were called (4) –
This refers to the return of the Lord to
take His Church to heaven. The Holy
Spirit in us is the assurance of this
great promise.**

Unity is based on our common beliefs.

One Lord (5) – This is our Lord Jesus Christ who died for us, lives for us, and one day will come for us. If two believers claim to believe the same Lord, they should be able to walk together in unity.

Unity is based on our common beliefs.

One faith (5) – There is one settled body of truth deposited by Christ in His Church. Jude calls it “the faith that was once for all entrusted to God’s holy people” (Jude 3).

Unity is based on our common beliefs.

One baptism (5) – The water baptism when a person identifies themselves with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Unity is based on our common beliefs.

One God the Father of all (6) – The marvelous oneness of believers In the family of God is evident here, for God is over all, and working through all, and in all. We are children in the same family, loving and serving each other and the same Father so we ought to be able to live together in unity.

Unity is based on our common beliefs.

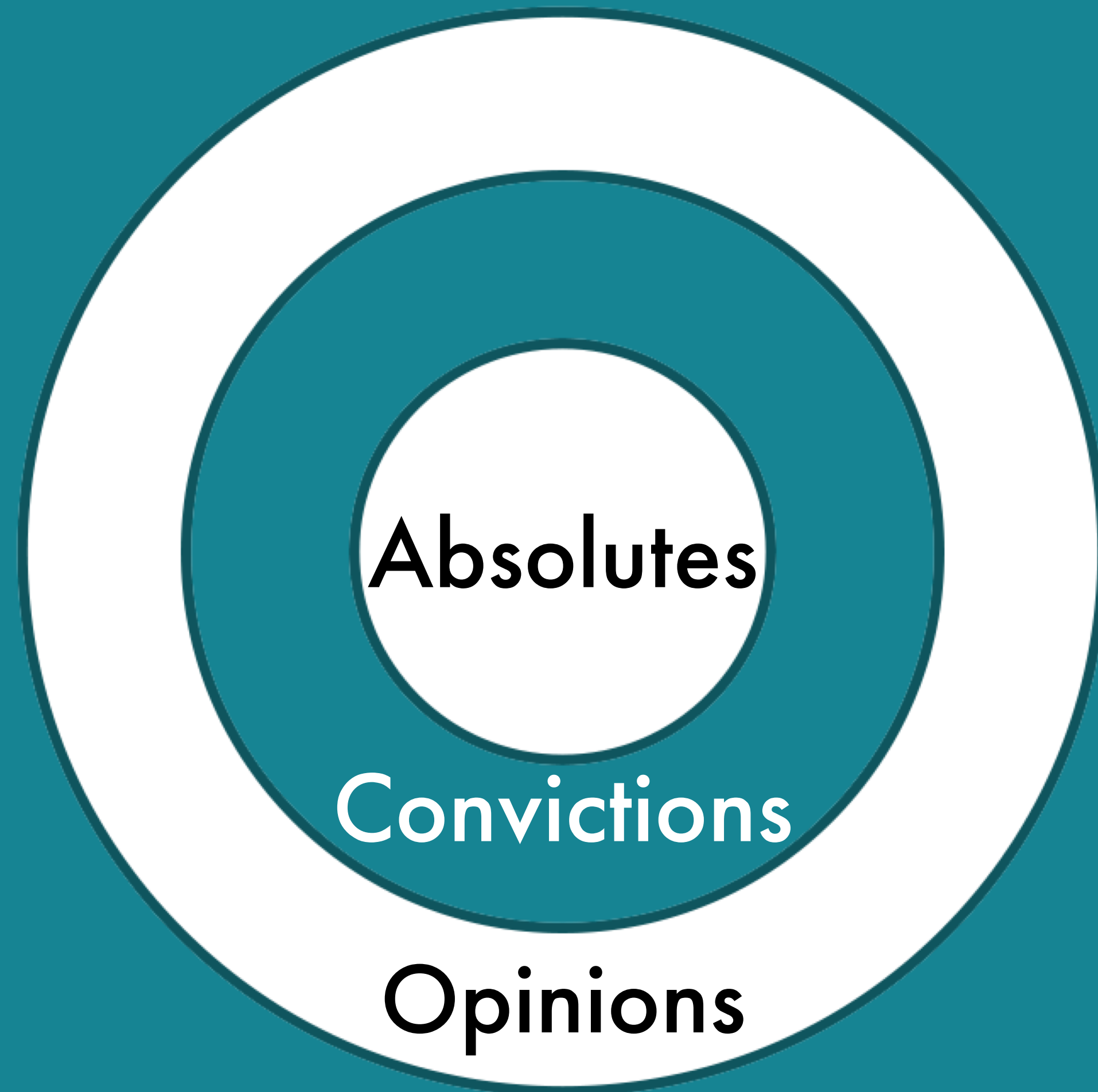
**One body, one Spirit, one hope,
one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
one God and Father...**

**These are the essentials of
Christian faith.**

Unity is based on our common beliefs.

**Theologically misaligned members
threaten the unity of the church.**

Unity is based on our common beliefs.



Unity requires spiritual substance.

- Unity requires a common motivation.**
- Unity is based on our common beliefs.**
- Unity is based on our common practices.**

Unity is based on our common practices.

Ephesians 4:1 – 3

As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.

Unity is based on our common practices.

**Ungodly members threaten the unity
in the church.**

Humble vs. Proud and Unyielding

Gentle vs. Harsh

Long-suffering vs. Dismissive

Diligent vs. Negligent

Unity is based on our common practices.

Self-sacrificial vs. Self-indulgent

Unity is based on our common practices.

Breaking down spiritual dividing walls

- **Lack of empathy**
- **Fear**
- **Elitism**
- **Impatience**

Unity requires spiritual substance.

Final Applications

- Be ready to repent and ready to forgive.**
- Remember you are a servant. Remember when Christ returns you want to hear him say, “well done, good and faithful servant”.**
- Be praying for the elders of High Point Church regularly and right now.**



EPHESIANS

4:1 – 6

