

# **Expressions of Unity and Fellowship with God**

***1 John 4:12-16***

# Introduction

- Reconciliation brings a spiritual unity and fellowship with our heavenly Father.
  - Through Jesus, God has reconciled us to Himself. ***2 Cor 5:17-21***
  - This reconciliation allows us to walk in the unity and the fellowship God. ***1 John 1:1-7***
  - This unity and fellowship is built, in part, on our love for the Lord and our obedience to His Word. ***John 14:21-24***

# Introduction

- Our reconciliation has made possible a wonderful unity and fellowship with God.
- In this lesson, we will consider a few expressions which convey our unity and fellowship with God.

# Expressions of Unity and Fellowship with God

- **We Abide in God / God Abides in Us**

- Greek word: *meno* (μένω, 3306)
- *Meno* means to stay or remain. It can refer to a specific place (literal or metaphorically), state, relation or expectancy.
- This word is used in reference to our relationship with God.

# Expressions of Unity and Fellowship with God

- **We Abide in God / God Abides in Us**

3 Now by this we know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.

4 He who says, “I know Him,” and does not keep His commandments, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

5 But whoever keeps His word, truly the love of God is perfected in him. **By this we know that we are in Him.**

6 **He who says he abides in Him** ought himself also to walk just as He walked.

# Expressions of Unity and Fellowship with God

- **We Abide in God / God Abides in Us**

23 And this is His commandment: that we should believe on the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, as He gave us commandment.

24 Now he who keeps His commandments **abides in Him**, and **He in him**. And by this we know that **He abides in us**, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

# Expressions of Unity and Fellowship with God

- **We Abide in God / God Abides in Us**

12 No one has seen God at any time. If we love one another, **God abides in us**, and His love has been perfected in us.

13 By this we know that **we abide in Him**, and **He in us**, because He has given us of His Spirit...

15 Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, **God abides in him**, and **he in God**.

16 And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and **he who abides in love abides in God**, and **God in him**.

# Expressions of Unity and Fellowship with God

- Jesus is In Us

22 And the glory which You gave Me I have given them, that **they may be one just as We are one**:

23 **I in them**, and **You in Me**; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me...

26 And I have declared to them Your name, and will declare it, that the **love** with which You loved Me **may be in them**, and **I in them**.

# Expressions of Unity and Fellowship with God

- **Jesus is In Us**

9 But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

10 And if **Christ is in you**, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

11 But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

# Expressions of Unity and Fellowship with God

- **God is In Us**

4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because **He who is in you** is greater than he who is in the world.

5 They are of the world. Therefore they speak as of the world, and the world hears them.

6 We are of God. He who knows God hears us; he who is not of God does not hear us. By this we know the spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

# Expressions of Unity and Fellowship with God

- **We are God's Family**

23 Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and **We will come to him and make Our home with him.**

24 He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me.

# Expressions of Unity and Fellowship with God

- **We are God's Family**

14 For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are **sons of God**.

15 For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father."

16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that **we are children of God**,

17 and if children, then heirs—**heirs of God** and **joint heirs with Christ**, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

# Conclusion

- **Expressions of Unity and Fellowship**
  - We abide in God and God abides in us.
  - Jesus is in us and we are in Jesus.
  - God is in us and we are in God.
  - We are God's family.

# Conclusion

- **Consider the invitation.**

19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten.  
Therefore be zealous and repent.

20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, **I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.**

21 To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. **Rev 3:19-21**