

## Gospel Unity

Here is our attempt at a statement on the Gospel that we can unify around. It is very similar to the Apostles creed with only minor adjustments. What follows are the implications regarding the issue of unity.

We believe in God the Father, Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord: He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified as a substitute, died a literal death and buried; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father; He will come again to judge the living and the dead:

We believe in the Holy Spirit; in one universal church: the communion of saints: of which Christ is the Head; The forgiveness of sins; The resurrection of the body; And in life everlasting:

We believe any and all who repent and believe will be saved. Amen

Implications of these truths in regards to unity:

Believing God is One, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, we believe our unity is a reflection of His essential nature.

Believing that the Father has shown the full extent of His love for us in the work of His Son, we believe that we demonstrate our love for Him by loving one another.

Believing Jesus willingly laid down His life for His bride, the church, we believe we are called to lay down our lives for the sake of our brothers and sisters, His bride, in gratitude for His sacrifice for us.

Believing that Jesus is raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit, we believe that by trusting in Him and His work, we too have been raised to a new life, given the same Holy Spirit and empowered to live in unity with our brothers and sisters, leaving behind the barriers that once divided us.

Believing that Jesus is seated at the right hand of the Father, interceding for us, we believe we too are called to intercede for one another in order that we might truly be one, as Jesus prayed.

Believing that Jesus is the One who will judge the living and the dead, we believe we will give an account to Him with regards to how we cared for one another.

Believing that the day is near when Jesus will come to call His bride, the church, we believe that seeking unity is part of our preparation for that day.

Believing that we have been forgiven such a great debt through Christ, we will willingly pursue forgiving others who have wronged us and seek forgiveness from those we have wronged, so that gospel restoration will lead to true gospel unity.

Believing that resurrection and life eternal is soon to be ours, we believe that our unity in this life will simply be a foretaste of the life that is to come.

We believe true unity is found in these truths revealed through Christ, not at the expense of these truths.

One in Christ,  
Josh Myrick; Dion Brown