

The Pledge

Pt. 2 - Indivisible

Note - Another word seldom used outside the Pledge of Allegiance - yet what a powerful word!

· We have been recently reminded just how divisible we really are.

Mark 10:42-43, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. 43 But among you it will be different."

Note - We must pledge to unite - not just to be right! (I would rather be righteous than right.)

· The church has always had potential divisibles.

1 Corinthians 1:10, I appeal to you, dear brothers and sisters, by the authority of our Lord Jesus Christ, to live in harmony with each other. Let there be no divisions in the church. Rather, be of one mind, united in thought and purpose.

Example - Meat sacrificed to idols (the mask debate of the day!)

1st Jews verses Gentiles (Racial tension of the Century)

Vacines? (Circumcision!)

Peter and Paul!

Galatians 2:11-13, But when Peter came to Antioch, I had to oppose him to his face, for what he did was very wrong. 12 When he first arrived, he ate with the Gentile believers, who were not circumcised. But afterward, when some friends of James came, Peter wouldn't eat with the Gentiles anymore. He was afraid of criticism from these

people who insisted on the necessity of circumcision. 13 As a result, other Jewish believers followed Peter's hypocrisy, and even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy.

- Divided we fall is a biblical truth.

Mark 3:25, If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand.

Note - Indivisibility is what we should strive for in marriage, with family and in our Christian community.

- To achieve indivisibility, we will need a new PLEDGE.

Ephesians 4:2-4, Be always humble, gentle, and patient. Show your love by being tolerant with one another. 3 Do your best to preserve the unity which the Spirit gives by means of the peace that binds you together. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as there is one hope to which God has called you.

The Indivisible Pledge

1. P - Prayer

James 5:16, ...Pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results.

Note - It's very difficult to remain at odds with someone you are diligently praying for.

Luke 6:28, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you.

Note - You can pray for someone you can't do anything else for!

2. L - Love

John 13:34, "I give you a new commandment - to love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another."

Note - Look for things to love instead of looking for things to hate.

Example - For a fat man, he don't sweat much.

Colossians 3:14, Above all, be loving. This ties everything together perfectly.

3. E - Encourage

1 Thessalonians 5:11, So encourage each other and build each other up, just as you are already doing.

Note - Stop tearing down and begin building up!
Start with God loves you!

4. D - Discuss

Note - Not diss and cuss!
Who can you begin a discussion with today?

James 1:19-20, Remember this, my dear brothers and sisters: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and should not get angry easily. 20 An angry person doesn't do what God approves of.

5. G - Give Grace

Colossians 3:13, ...Bear graciously with one another, and willingly forgive each other... just as the Lord has forgiven you, so should you forgive.

Note - We all get it wrong some times and when we do,
we hope people will be gracious.
Plant those seeds!

Example - How I treated my mom.

E - Empathize

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1 Corinthians 9:22, Yes, I try to find common ground with everyone, doing everything I can to save some.

Note - Not everyone has had your experience.

Example - Restaurants

Romans 12:15, Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.