

**Friday 14 May, 2010**  
**Sermon - The Grace to Just Get On**

**On October 27, 2002 I Preached**

- A sermon called the power of Unity
- Available at <http://www.davidsplace.info/mp3/index.htm>
- I had a revelation and I realised that if God's people could all agree and one mind
- What an incredible change could be brought about.

**God gave me two examples of this**

- The first was the tower of Babel (picture)
- Genesis 11:1-8
- The other example was on September 11, 2001 (picture)
- Those 18 men were agreed in purpose of mind and they changed the world.

**This was a great encouragement to me**

- Because we did not have big numbers in our church
- And we still don't
- But if we could agree and have unity we could achieve anything

**There are some great promises in the Bible regarding this.**

- John 13:34
- Psalm 133:1-3

**So all we have to do is be in Unity and we're set right?**

- It's not easy to achieve
- Everyone agrees with the idea that Unity is good
- But inside, everyone still wants to do their own thing
- And, every individual believer thinks their way is best, and that they are a better believer.
- Everyone wants Unity as long as it means everyone must agree with them

**The Bible is full of instructions to get on with others:**

- Love one another (Romans 13:8)
- Be devoted to one another above yourselves (Romans 12:10)
- Honor one another (Romans 12:10)
- Live in Harmony with one another (Romans 12:16)
- Don't pass judgement on one another (Romans 14:3)
- Despite all the instructions to get along – it doesn't help us to actually do it better.
- Parents with children will know this.

**Jesus Himself Instructed His Own Disciples – to no avail**

- They argued about who was the greatest
- Jesus tried to explain
- It did not work.

**So the Day Came That Jesus Announced Something**

- John 14:15-17
- John 16:5-7
- It was actually better to have the Holy Spirit than to have Jesus

### **So – why don't we see exactly what happened when the HS did come**

- Acts 4:32 "All the believers were one in heart and mind."
- The Holy Spirit was better than Jesus because changed the believers
- They used to be a rowdy bunch of misfits held together by a common love for Jesus
- Now they are a powerful group united by their love for each other.

### **Many Years ago... the story of the Moravians**

- Describe their disunity and the grace that changed them when the Holy Spirit fell.
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K1xZwJI-BS0>
- And the results of that
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Rq2Uw9nkJI&feature=related>

### **So as a result of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit**

- People loved one another
- The results were seen in their prayers, their love, their devotion and in their missions.

### **Imagine...**

- That all of Mt Morgan became Christians overnight
- All those people with different ideas, different feelings
- And different experiences
- And each one thinks highly of himself
- That is what most churches are like.

### **In the Past we Have Thought that the Holy Spirit was for Tongues**

- But no – the Holy Spirit is not just to be poured on for individuals
- It is to be poured out on groups
- To help those groups become what God wanted all along
- To help those groups to love one another
- That is what Pentecost is all about.

### **Several Years Ago our Church in Rockhampton began Praying For this**

- There was no sudden amazing event
- But as we look back on the last few years – there is an amazing sense of community developing
- And God has used that church of only 200 people in amazing ways in the world
- We have these same opportunities

### **We Need to Pray for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit**

- To give us grace for community
- To help us to love one another
- To give us power to love and serve Christ
- We need more than tongues.

### **Acts 1:4-8**

- Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would give them power
- They would be changed somehow to be who they should be
- That is what we need.

### **Pray With Me**