Connect Study—Vision Sunday

Eph 4:3 “Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace”

The key phrase in the book of Ephesians is “in and through Christ”. Eph 1:3 said “we have been blessed with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ”. Some of the blessings listed include being chosen by God, made blameless, adopted, forgiven, predestined and sealed. Paul went on to pray for the believers and ended with the statement that “the church is his (Christ’s) body; it is made full and complete by Christ”.

Ephesians 2 then tells us that we are reconciled to God through the work of Christ. Salvation is by grace through faith. “We don’t get good to get God, but we get God to get good.” And through Christ, Gentiles and Jews are united together into one new people of God. Together, we are the household of God and the temple of God—the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.

In Ephesians 3, Paul explains his role in the reconciling work of Christ, which is to proclaim the mystery of the Gospel and the nature of this mystery is that through Christ, the Gentiles are co-heirs together with the Jews.

Therefore, we are urged to make every effort to keep ourselves united in the Spirit, binding ourselves together with peace.

As the body of Christ, we are called to minister in and through the body. To minister in the body is to find our function in the Body of Christ.

We must keep a balance between the Sunday Church and Monday Church. The Sunday Church refers to our ministry and involvement within the Church and Monday Church refers to bringing the gospel to wherever we are.

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| **SUNDAY CHURCH** | **MONDAY CHURCH** |
| Lifting up our hands  | Reaching our hands OUT |
| Discipling people | Demonstrating the Gospel in the community |
| Revelation | Activation |
| Built by Eph 4:11 giftings  | Built by the whole congregation doing their part  |
| Teaching & equipping  | Doing  |
| Coming together | Going  |
| Growing in faith | Going to the faithless |
| Coming together as family | Going to the fatherless  |

Discussion Questions:

1. Read through Eph 1:3-14, identify some of the spiritual blessings you have received through Christ. Choose one and share what that means to you.
2. What are some of the practical things we can do in making every effort “to be united in the Spirit, binding ourselves together with peace”?
3. Where do you think you best function in the body of Christ? If you have yet to find your fit, what are some of the practical steps you can take towards that?
4. In terms of Sunday Church vs Monday Church, which one do you tend to lean towards? How can you achieve a better balance?
5. If you are the Senior Minister at your workplace, what would change in terms of your work ethics, attitudes and goals towards your workplace?