

That They May Be One

I. The Great Project – to make a Human

A. *Image and Likeness*

Gen 1.26 Then God said, “Let us make **man** in **our image**, after **our likeness**. And **let them have *dominion** over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

*God is love. Whoever lives in love, lives in God, and God in him.
*anything else is abuse

II. Humans – More than Physics & Biochemistry

Romance helps us understand God.

Gen 2:23 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and **be united** to his wife. One flesh.

He **loves** us, but doesn't **control** us. Love is Christ on the Cross

Consent - opens the door to the gift

Participation - utilizes the GIFTING, the opportunities, to contribute

Generation after Generation

III. Humans in Love

Eph 4.1 NIV As a prisoner for the Lord, then, I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. **2 Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love. 3 Make every effort to keep the *unity of the Spirit* through the bond of peace. 4** There is one body and one Spirit — just as you were called to one hope when you were called — **5** one Lord, one faith, one baptism; **6** one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Unity of the Spirit can only be accomplished By the active participation of the Holy Spirit!

IV. We Need the Holy Spirit!

Acts 10.25 When Peter entered, Cornelius met him .. 27 And as he talked with him, he went in and found many persons gathered. 28 And he said to them, **“You yourselves know how unlawful it is for a Jew to associate with or to visit anyone of another nation, but God has shown me that I should not call any person common or unclean.**

34 So Peter opened his mouth and said: **“Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, 35 but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. 36** As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ, ... 38 how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ... 43 To him all the prophets bear witness that **everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”**

44 While Peter was still saying these things, **the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. 45** And **the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. 46** For they were hearing them **speaking in tongues and extolling God.** Then Peter declared, 47 **“Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?”**

It starts with visiting a home and relationship. The Holy Spirit manifests the heart unity.

The **theology is the hardest part**. It will come, but it will come last.

Acts 15.1 But some men came down from Judea and were teaching ... "Unless you are circumcised,... you cannot be saved." 2 And after **Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and debate with them**, ...

6 The apostles and the elders were gathered together to consider this matter. 7 And after there had been **much debate**, Peter stood up and said to them, ... 8 And **God, who knows the heart**, bore witness to them, **by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us**, 9 and he **made no distinction** between us and them, having **cleansed their hearts by faith**. ... 11 **But we believe that we will be saved through the grace of the Lord Jesus, just as they will.**"

V. Time in Italy

A. **BARI** Early this year, Bruno Ierullo from Toronto invited me to a meeting with ecumenical leaders in Bari, Italy. A couple weeks ago, I was able to attend with **Vinny Sakore**. **John Arnott** and **Bruno Ierullo** from Toronto Catch the Fire were there. There were Anglican, Lutheran, Orthodox, Messianic, and Pentecostal/Charismatic leaders there. **Billy White**, president of ORU was there. I was invited to share briefly. The gathering was presided over by **Matteo Calisi**. And there I met **Giovanni Traettino** [SLIDES 1-4]

B. **ROME – Giovanni Traettino**. Pentecostal pastor in Caserta.

Vision of a big field with a barbed wire fence on both sides.

Anyone who got too close would be very bloody and wounded. Then he saw the Cross and there was no more fence. Just one field. Began to talk about it. Criticism from

his Pentecostal friends. Met Matteo Calisi of the Catholic Fraternity.

1992. Invited to speak in Bari. 500 years of hostility. Vision of washing feet. So upset. Did it. A Franciscan monk, Belpiedi

1997. Big gathering in Rimini. Catholic leaders washed his feet. Cantalamessa, 3 Cardinals, lots of bishops washed his feet and asked forgiveness in front of 30,000 charismatic catholics.

2002 Pope Benedict issued a document that RC is only church. Discouraged. Bishop Bergoglio to Matteo, "Don't worry, as the years go by, it will be forgotten."

2006 Cantalamessa and Giovanni spoke in Buenos Aires. Met Bishop Bergoglio. Stricken by him as a deep man of God. Became friends.

2015 B. Bergoglio becomes Pope Francis I. The Argentinian pastors come to greet him.

Phoned Giovanni, "Hello, I would like you to come visit me." When they met, Francis told him he would like to come to the Pentecostal church and ask forgiveness.

Giovanni said that he could write a document. "No I want to come to a church. I want to come to your church.

So they picked a day in July last summer. Francis came for breakfast, then they went to the Church of the Reconciliation, and the Pope spoke. He rehearsed the hostility between the RC and the Protestants in Italy for 500 years. The role of the RC in persecuting the Pentecostals under Mussolini. 30's-60's. Persecution & Discrimination. Preached on Joseph & His Brothers. We, the Catholics, have been the brothers who threw you into the pit and sold you. You Pentecostals are like Joseph, God

is with you. He asked the congregation to forgive him and to forgive the Roman Catholic Church for the persecution.

This is HISTORIC. Never in 500 years.

Both Giovanni and Francis have been criticized!

Friday June 10:

POPE FRANCIS Met with a group of 50 charismatic leaders. 2 hours of sharing and dialogue. **Unprecedented. [SLIDES 5-10]**

A great evil – the church is divided. Story of growing up in Argentina.

He was told all Protestants were going to hell. That this movement was started by a certain German named Luther who liked beer.

If they entered a Protestant church, they had to go to confession before they could take communion. They weren't allowed to go into the house of a Protestant.

One day, when he was around 12, he was waking with his grandmother and saw two Salvation Army women in their uniforms across the street. He asked his grandmother if they were nuns. She answered, "No, they are not, but they are GOOD." That was the first time he ever thought there could be a change.

He shared his heart, his view that **the diversity is richness**. It is better that we are not all the same, yet have one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

[John 12.23](#) And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. [24](#) Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

John 17.20 “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, **21 that they may all be one**, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, **so that the world may believe** that you have sent me. **22** The **glory** that you have given me I have given to them, **that they may be one** even as we are one, **23** I in them and you in me, **that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them** even as you loved me.

VI. Holy Spirit Come!

We pray for revival. Jesus prayed for unity.

That we might PARTICIPATE IN DIVINE NATURE – Love

Eating the love of God. Drinking the love of God.

Eternal life begins the moment you say, “Yes” to God.

Acts 1.8 But you will receive **power** when **the Holy Spirit has come upon you**, and you will be my witnesses ...to the end of the earth.”

Same phrase GABRIEL spoke to Mary... “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power...

LIFT YOUR HANDS into the OILY ELECTRIC PRESENCE

Holy Spirit come! Pour out the love of God in our hearts. Clothe us with power from on high!