





## 2. The Challenge:

- Anyone been hurt, missed, not heard, not seen, lost in translation?
- Sin, flesh and our humanity and pride get in the way
- John 13:35 "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."
- 1 Corinthians 12:14 For the body does not consist of one member but of many...

Challenge to work together | Move together | UNITY

- Denominations
- Heaven's reality

## **Babel's Bondage:**

### **Genesis 11:1-9** The Tower of Babel

11 Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. 2 As people moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there. 3 They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. 4 Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth." 5 But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. 6 The LORD said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. 7 Come,

let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other." 8 So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city. 9 That is why it was called Babel—because there the LORD confused the language of the whole world. From there the LORD scattered them over the face of the whole earth.

- God
- Love
- The enemy...

"According to Christian teachers, the essential vice, the utmost evil, is Pride. Unchastity, anger, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are mere flea bites in comparison: it was through Pride that the devil became the devil: Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind." C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity



### 3. The Change: CHRIST

#### Acts 2:4-29 NIV

4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. 5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. 6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. 7 Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? 9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors

from Rome 11 (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" 12 Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

- 1. Practically, interpret: Could supernaturally understand each other. [Languages of the world. Gift of tongues]
- 2. Babel and Jerusalem [Acts]

### **Genesis** [Babel]

- Bondage of Babel
- Making a name for 'ourselves'
- 'Our' ability
- For themselves
- Flesh and pride
- Old way

## **Acts** [Jerusalem]

- Was broken for God's people
- Glory of God and His name
- 'the magnificent acts of God' 'the wonders of God'
- Together for Him I Family reality
- Humility, faith and Lordship
- New way

# Jesus broke Babel's bondage for His body

## 3. Spiritual reality for us by the Spirit:

Bringing us to a place of unity / hearing / connection

**Key**: We are filled with the same Spirit

John 6:63 The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you—they are full of the Spirit and life.

**Key**: "we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues"

**Testimonies** 

"I hear you"

# How:

1. Walk by the Spirit

Unity: **Acts 15:28** For it seemed good to the Holy Ghost, and to us, to lay upon you no greater burden than these necessary things

[HCSB] For it was the Holy Spirit's decision—and ours—to put no greater burden on you than these necessary things

"I hear you"

# How:

1. Walk by the Spirit

2. Choose to walk by love LOVE'S LANGUAGE [OF UNITY]

3. Humility. Posture of the heart!

"I hear you"

### 4. The Church:

## **Ephesians 4 Unity and Diversity in the Body of Christ**

Therefore I, the prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk worthy of the calling you have received, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, accepting one another in love, 3 diligently keeping the unity of the Spirit with the peace that binds us. 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope at your calling—5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

My prayer for us is:

## **Psalm 133 Blessed Unity of the People of God**

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! 2 It is like the precious oil upon the head, running down on the beard, The beard of Aaron, Running down on the edge of his garments. 3 It is like the dew of Hermon, Descending upon the mountains of Zion; For there the LORD commanded the blessing—Life forevermore.



