

minister's message

A Call for Unity

1 Corinthians 1:10-12 - Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and [that] there be no divisions among you; but [that] ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

God wants us to be united. First He sent Jesus so that mankind could be united with the spirit of God and become children of God (John 1:12-13). Each of us has a character, a personality, a soul that was made in the image of God but has been contorted by sin and unrighteousness. Joining our spirit with God's spirit cleanses us from our iniquity (1 Corinthians 6:11), but every day we must work to overcome our carnality (Romans 8:5). It is important that we see the uniting of God to man because the next unification is Mankind to itself through the Church.

People are not united. The Church and the scriptures work to unite a broken people. We have a wide variety of qualities that divide us: race, culture, academics, economic status, class, nationality, political party,

gender, orientation, factions and special interests all seem to place us on different sides against one another. But the Church is a group that unites people with each other for one common goal: to love God and love one another.

Churches should be united. Understand first that I am not speaking of denominations and other religions but rather the religion and the Church which is found in the bible. Paul and Peter both wrote letters to congregations to encourage them to unite in the faith (1 Peter 2:4-10, Romans 15:5-6). Yes, sometimes we have differences but those differences should not lead to divisions. Seeing that all God has done was meant to unite people, we should never be working to undo what He has done. This is when division happens, when we ignore the scriptures and instead obey our own passions, feelings, thoughts, and desires. Let us remember to always be united in Christ in all that we do.

His servant and yours, Chris Hamilton

ministers

leonard bradley

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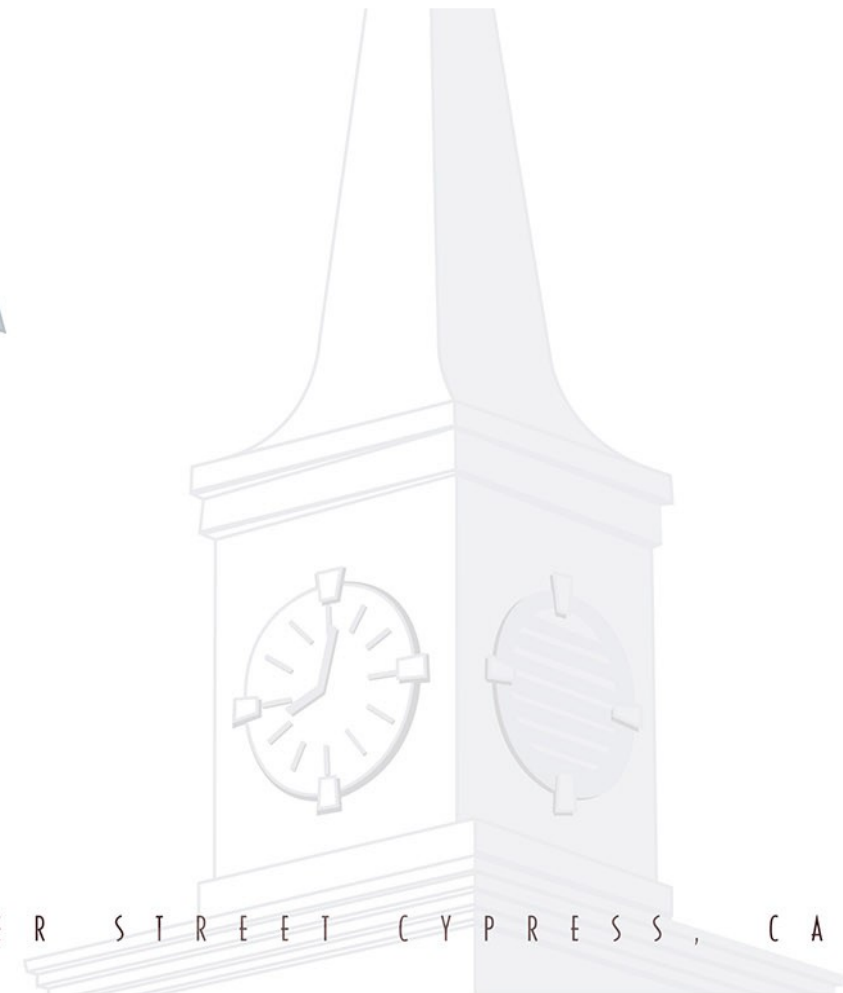
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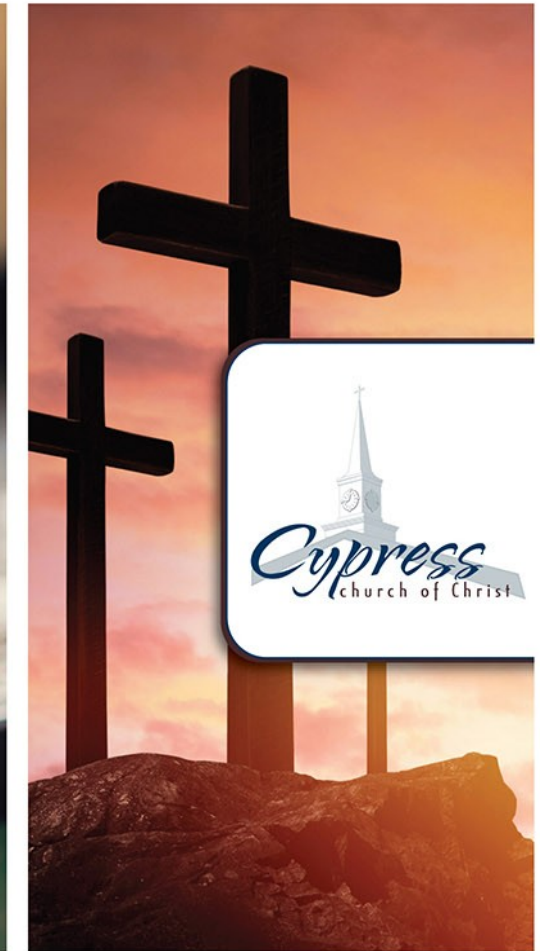
Volume 18

cypress messenger

the proclamation for church of Christ events

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worship times

sunday morning 10:00 a.m.

sunday evening 5:00 p.m.

bible class (weekly classes see inside)

sunday morning 11:50 a.m.

cypresscoc.com (website)

our affirmation of faith: "JESUS IS LORD"

