



CAPE TOWN 2010 SESSION SUMMARY AND SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

This Summary and Synopsis document has two components:

Page 1 is the summary of all the speakers in the 90-minute session.

Pages 2 and following include a synopsis of each specific video segment extracted from the full 90-minute session.

FULL SESSION SUMMARY - Biblical Exposition of Ephesians 4:1-16

DATE OF SESSION: 22 October 2010

SUMMARY SUBMITTED BY: Ellen Zaretsky (CT2010 Communications Session Summary Team)

PRESENTER(S): Vaughan Roberts

KEY POINTS:

*Tower of Babel epitomizes worldwide division/disunity

*Unity (spiritual)

*The goal in Ephesians 1 is to unite all things in Christ

*Word of God unites us

The theme of this portion of Scripture is UNITY. How do you maintain Christian unity, for the sake of God's purpose, in the midst of a divided world? There are two requirements for Christian unity. First, Christian unity requires an outworking of God's call, how we should live (vv 4:1-6). Second, Christian unity requires a proclamation of God's word (vv 4:7-19).

Humanity is divided naturally but we are called together now in Christ. Local churches are the hope of unity in a world of diversity. Our unity is spiritual. The world is repelled by disunity within the Christian church.

Therefore, unity is the goal to maintain in Christian life because it is a fact of Christian life. It requires working to maintain a spiritual unity within diversity in the body of Christ. There is a tendency to water down or abandon core doctrine to keep Christians together. This is not spiritual unity. The uniqueness of Christ is what unites us spiritually.

We are each uniquely different. It was illustrated that when we freeze water, we all get the same ice. When God freezes water, He gives us snowflakes, no two alike! Each Christian is uniquely equipped for God's purposes in the body (I Corinthians 12). Some are given specialized gifts just to build up the body of Christ, but all members of the body are the ministers.

Discipleship has become the "great omission" for lack of the word of God.

We need both truth and love in the proclamation of the Gospel. Truth is not to be used to attack. As evangelists, we much love one another and speak the word of God in love.

TAKEAWAY

We must make God's call to unity of the Spirit the prime goal for the sake of fulfilling our purpose in Christ. To accomplish this unity, building of the body, we must learn, internalize and proclaim the word of God. We must pray for, recruit, train (equip) and deploy evangelists, new young members of a unified body, to reach the world for Christ. And then we must maintain them!



1. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: Scripture in Mission – Story in Scripture
SEGMENT TITLE: Dramatic Reading – The Parable of the Sower
SEGMENT DATE: 22 October 2010 (Ephesians Study)
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Vladimir Pikman, Daniel Nessim (CT2010 Globalink Team)

Bramuel Musya, Africa director of God's Story Project, dramatically recites Jesus' parable of the Sower and the Seed. The parable speaks of a sower who sows seed on four kinds of soil. The good soil yields an abundant crop. The good soil is the person who has received the Word of God, understands it and bears fruit.

Study questions:

1. Can you suggest some examples of people who exemplify the four kinds of soil?
2. What is it that makes a person fruitful?

2. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: Eradicating Biblical Poverty: Video
SEGMENT TITLE: Scripture in Mission: Helping Us Face Our Greatest Challenges
SEGMENT DATE: 22 October 2010 (Ephesians Study)
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Vladimir Pikman, Daniel Nessim (CT2010 Globalink Team)

This Scripture in Mission video shows examples of trauma that many people endure. HIV Aids decimates families. Children in Africa have been subjected to abuse. Others have seen their families killed. Meanwhile, Christian counselors and pastors have developed a biblical approach to helping the traumatized. These examples illustrate that the Word of God plays an essential role in this healing process. A final example of a young man turning from drug addiction reaffirms this.

Study Questions:

1. What kinds of trauma do people in your society endure?
2. How can we help these people with the Word of God?



3. SEGMENT SYNOPSIS

TOPIC: Biblical Exposition of Ephesians
SEGMENT TITLE: Ephesians 4 – Vaughan Roberts (Part 1 and Part 2)
SEGMENT DATE: 22 October 2010
SYNOPSIS WRITERS: Vladimir Pikman, Daniel Nessim (CT2010 GlobaLink Team)

Part 1: Oxford preacher and author Vaughan Roberts speaks on unity from Ephesians 4. He prefaces it with illustrations of the world's longing for peace. His sermon has two main headings. In this first part of his exposition he emphasises that Christian unity requires the outworking of God's call.

Our unity is a reality in Christ. It is not mere ecumenicalism. It requires love, and also truth. It does not require compromise of Biblical teaching. Our unity is in our obedience to God, walking worthy of our calling. We must be careful not to put up barriers to unity. We must beware of divisive pride, and bear with one another in love.

Study Questions:

1. In what ways do you experience the world's longing for peace?
2. What are the essential teachings we must not compromise?
3. What kinds of barriers do Christians sometimes erect between each other?
4. How can we practically demonstrate unity as individual believers and together as Christians?

Part 2: Vaughan Roberts continues his talk on unity in Ephesians 4. In this second section, he emphasises that Christian unity requires the proclamation of God's Word.

The church's unity is not in uniformity. All members of the church are different in their gifts but necessary in the designed unity of the body of Christ. The world and the church both are thirsty for the Word of God. Love requires us to proclaim the truth in love. The mission of the church needs a new generation of people in ministry. This new generation needs to be recruited, trained, deployed and maintained. In Acts six the Apostles demonstrated the necessity that ministry take priority. As a result, the Word of God spread. When the Word of God is spread, the Church will grow. Unity will cause the world to see our love for one another. Then the world will finally be as one.

Study Questions:

1. How can we as Christians use our different gifts to help one another?
2. Do you or your organisations have unity problems that prevent you from ministering the Word of God effectively?