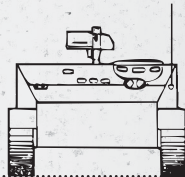


# ONE PLUS ONE EQUALS ONE



## WARM UP

A few years ago there were over 1,200 denominations in the USA alone. Some of them are very interesting.

- One of them is “The Church of the Kennedy Worshipers”. It is a church where people actually believe that they can pray to the late President John F. Kennedy, and can be cured both of congenital defects and terminal diseases.
- There’s also “The Church of the Ministry of Universal Wisdom”. They look for flying saucers to come.
- And then there’s “The Church of What’s Happening Now”. It’s obviously a more contemporary church.



## READ John 13:35

## BACKGROUND

The movement my church belongs to has a great motto about Christian unity:

- **In essential things, unity.** There are certain issues that are non-negotiable.
- **In non-essential things, liberty.** There are other issues that are not primary, and we ought to give each other freedom in these areas.
- **In all things, charity.** No matter what position we hold on various issues, we act and speak with respect and dignity. We demonstrate trust to our brothers and sisters.



## QUESTIONS

1. What are the essentials of the faith?

2. How can I love those who believe different things?

3. What can I do to promote unity with brothers from another church?

## CONSIDER THIS

Dieter Zander, the pastor of the first GenX church in America, spoke at a conference about reaching people in the age of relativism. He cited a Barna study that asked people to use single words to describe Jesus. They responded, “wise, accepting, compassionate, gracious, humble”. Then he asked them to use single words to describe Christians. They said, “critical, exclusive, self righteous, narrow and repressive”.

Zander responded to this by saying, “There is a difference between knowing the good news and being the good news. We are the evidence! How we live our lives is the evidence. Everything counts - all the time.”

## WRAP UP

### Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, the Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord: Who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.



## IT'S TIME FOR PRAYER

### MY RESPONSE AS A PROMISE KEEPER

As a Promise Keeper I am committed to reaching beyond any racial and denominational barriers to demonstrate the power of biblical unity.

