



WORDS FROM  
*Pastor Randy*

Someone has expressed the tragic reality in many of our churches through the words of a little poem that we often quote:

**“To dwell above with Saints we love  
Well, that will sure be glory  
To dwell below with Saints we know  
Well, that’s another story”**

How often we allow our petty little differences to prevent us from experiencing the joy of genuine Christian **fellowship**. No one ever expected us all to agree about everything all of the time! As someone has observed, one of us would be unnecessary if we always saw things exactly alike! The greater need in the church is that we learn to *disagree* without becoming *disagreeable*.

The Apostle Paul issues a very interesting word of exhortation in [Philippians 4:2-5](#)

*“I beseech Euodias and Syntyche that they be of the same mind  
in the Lord. And I intreat thee also, help those women which  
labored with me in the gospel . . . rejoice in the Lord always; and  
again I say rejoice.”*

Paul knew how important **teamwork** is in the work of the church. He encouraged these two quarreling sisters to make peace with one another. They needed to discover their **unity** in Christ.

Euodias and Syntyche were members of a great church there in Philippi. Their disharmony had begun to create real division among its people. Notice that Paul didn't ask them to act "uniformly," but he did require them to be of "*one mind*."

It brings to my mind the great need that exists for **harmony** in the church. Singing in harmony never means singing in unison. Everybody being on the same note will never make beautiful music. Harmony means that my efforts complement the efforts of others, rather than conflict with them. It's everybody getting on their part and staying in rhythm with the one beside them.

I learned a valuable lesson from a crab basket the other day. There is an art to tossing those cantankerous crustaceans into a basket and keeping them there. Those who catch crabs have discovered a very important secret. If you only have one crab in your basket, you'll need a lid to keep the thing from crawling out. If you've got two or more, you need do nothing else. When there are several crabs in a basket, they will drag one another down so that none of them can get away.

A lot of folks are just that way. On purpose, they do things to keep others from getting ahead. They invest a lot more energy pulling others back down than they do boosting others up and out. The end result is that about dinnertime, they'll all be in the hot water together.

Just think about that.

Pastor Randy

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# Trivia That Isn't Trivial

1. What was the hometown of King David?
2. What was the name of the mother who hid her son in the bulrushes?
3. What relationship was Lois to Timothy?

## **ANSWERS**

1. Bethlehem (1 Samuel 17:12)
  2. Jochebed, the mother of Moses (Exodus 2:3, 6:20)
  3. His grandmother (2 Timothy 1:5)
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