

A DECLARATION OF INTERDEPENDENCE

- Themes from I Corinthians

Let us consider some principles and practices of interdependence from I Corinthians

Together we will be ...

I. PEACEABLE (1:10-12; 6:7-8)

A. AVOIDING CONTENTIOUSNESS (1:10-12)

1. The Plea (10) > A call for unity
2. The Problems (11-12)

B. AVOIDING COURTROOMS (6:7-8)

1. Their suits (7a)
2. Their sin (8) > Wronging and defrauding their brothers
3. The solution (7b) > Take the wrong and be cheated

C. ANNOUNCING OUR COMMITMENT:

- We the people of Franklin Road Baptist Church will be peaceable.

Together we will be ...

II. HUMBLE (4:4-7)

A. REMEMBERING THE LORD'S REVIEW (4-5)

1. We can be guilty though unaware of it (4)
2. Waiting on the Lord to disclose hidden motives is necessary (5)

B. AVOIDING ARROGANCE (6-7)

1. With regard to teachers (6)
2. About any supposed personal superiority (7)

C. DECLARING OUR INTENTIONS:

- We the people of Franklin Road Baptist Church will be humble

Together we will be ...

III. CAREFUL (5:1, 6-7)

A. THE RAUNCHINESS (1)

- Unparalleled immorality

B. THE REALITY (6)

- Sin spreads!

- C. THE RESPONSIBILITY (7)
- Purge the sin and stay pure

D. THE RECORD: *We the people of Franklin Road Baptist Church will be careful.*

Together we will be ...

IV. **THOUGHTFUL** (8:8-13, 10:23-33)

A. LIMITING OUR LIBERTY (8:8-13)

1. The Principle (8)
2. Our Practices (9-13)

B. SELFLESSLY SACRIFICING (10:23-24, 32)

1. Seeking another's best (23-24)
2. Giving no offense (32)

C. OUR COVENANT: *We the people of Franklin Road Baptist Church will be thoughtful.*

Together we will be ...

V. **WORSHIPFUL** (11:2-33)

A. RESPECTFUL OF AUTHORITY (2-16)

1. Recognizing God's order (3)
2. Avoiding contentiousness (16)

B. REVERENT AT COMMUNION (17-34)

1. Sensitivity to the congregation (17-22) [esp. v. 22]
2. Contemplation before communion (23-32) [esp. v. 28]

C. RESPONSE: *We the people of Franklin Road Baptist Church will be worshipful.*

CONCLUSION:

Our church can be *powerful* or *pitiful* depending upon our commitment to interdependence.
- Might we never forget that we are a congregation of connected people

Let us always seek to be "The United Saints of Franklin Road Baptist Church"