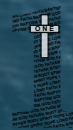
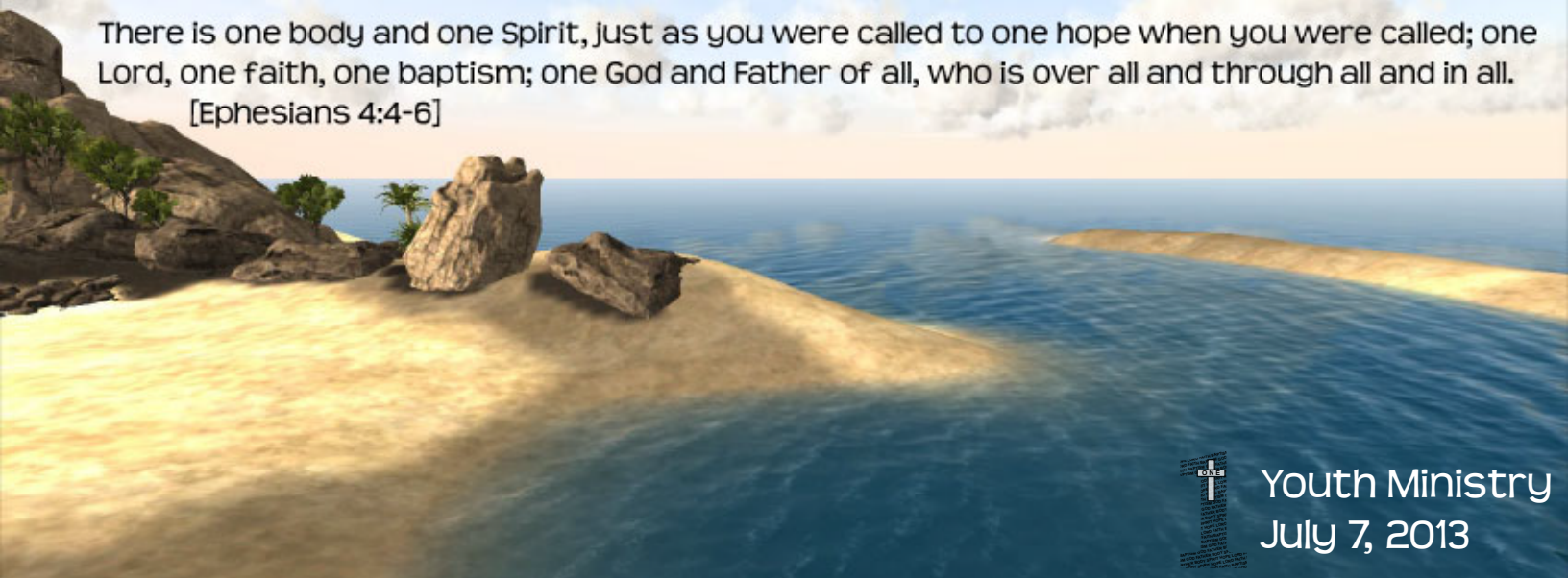


There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

[Ephesians 4:4-6]



Youth Ministry  
July 7, 2013

**Offering Message:** We continued our discussion on Alms giving and how Alms must be given in love from the heart and be done in secret with no expectations of reward or recognition in order to be blessed to be a blessing to others. What you give humbly to the needy will come back to you.

#### **Matthew 6:1-4**

1 “Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, you will have no reward from your Father in heaven. 2 ”So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honored by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. 3 But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, 4 so that your giving may be in secret. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you.

#### **Lesson:**

We looked at Ephesians 4:4-6 focusing on what it meant to be “one body”. We also discovered that our “1 youth” logo came from these verses.

We answered what it means to be a Christian. One of the best definitions we came up with was “a person who believes in and follows Jesus Christ while possessing his values”. We noted that the word Christian is only used 3 times in the Bible. Christians typically addressed each other as brother, brethren, believer or faithful giving a sense of connection or unity between them.

We also discussed Ephesians 4:7 where we are each given a special gift through Christ. It is these special gifts working together that creates “one body”. Each gift has a purpose as does each person and when one is missing it is like a person missing a limb.

We finished by discussing Acts 27:33-37 where Paul reassures all 276 people on board the boat that they would all live as long as they stayed together on the boat and would surely die if they left on their own. We talked about how when one of us leaves the Church we become disconnected from the body and start to spiritually die.

#### **Bible Verse: Acts 27:33-37**

33 Just before dawn Paul urged them all to eat. “For the last fourteen days,” he said, “you have been in constant suspense and have gone without food—you haven’t eaten anything. 34 Now I urge you to take some food. You need it to survive. Not one of you will lose a single hair from his head.” 35 After he said this, he took some bread and gave thanks to God in front of them all. Then he broke it and began to eat. 36 They were all encouraged and ate some food themselves. 37 Altogether there were 276 of us on board.

#### **Bible Verse: Ephesians 4:4-6**

4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

#### **Bible Verse: Ephesians 4:7**

7 However, he has given each one of us a special gift through the generosity of Christ.